THE INDEPENDENT

Thursday 30 October 1997 (IR50p) 45p No 3,441

Lost souls of the Algerian night: now their torturers tell the truth



Amina Beuslimane - 13/12/94. Mother told she is dead



Naima Boughaba - 12/4/94. Fate unknown.



Nejoua Boughaba - 12/4/94. Fate unknown.



Saida Kheroubi - 7/5/97. Feet crushed in interrogation.

Mind control? TV rental for prisoners

A large number of British prisoners are to have colour televisions in their cells. The move, writes lason Bennetto, Crime Correspondent, has provoked accusations that the authorities are trying to control and sedate the minds of criminals.

Up to 20,000 inmates are to Prison Department will put be given unlimited access to colour televisions in their cells in an attempt to ease the problems caused by prison overcrowding.

In about a month, manufacturers are expected to be asked to tender bids to supply thousands of television sets to the Prison Service.

Prisoners will be allowed to use weekly wages earned in the jails to rent the sets. channel." They will be given tu uffenders as a reward for good behaviour and removed as a punishment.

Ministers have yet to agree details, but they have agreed to the principle of allowing televisions in all 135 jails in England and Wales.

The decision was attacked yesterday by the Tory party and prison officers who fear in-cell televisions will replace education and training.

But prison officials believe televisions are an eftive and chean easing tension and providing inmates with entertainment and education at a time when many are being locked up in their cells for longer periods. With the jail population baving passed the record 63,000. more offenders are having to share cells designed for one. Prison governors will be

able to control the times inmates can watch television, but most are expected to

leave viewing to the inmates. The televisions are also expected to have an "in-prison" channel for information and

education. Mark Freeman, assistant general secretary of the Prison Officers' Association, which has met prison officials to discuss the issue, said that about 5,000 sets were expected in the first batch. "We have a suspicion that the televisions in cells and cut staff," he said. "TV's will just be used as a control measure. We would only want them to be made available for prisoners on enhanced regimes [inmates who have earned special privileges]."

"They would only have the five terrestrial channels, we are not talking about providing Sky TV and the Playboy

At present, there are about 2,500 televisions in 20 jails in England and Wales, although the sets are only widely available at six prisons.

John Greenway, the shadow prisons minister, said: "If the Prison Service has some spare cash then they should spend it on providing meaningful activity and training out of cells. I fear televisions are heing used to manage the

overcrowding problem." Harry Fletcher, of the National Association of Probation Officers, said: "It is sound idea providing it does not lead to a reduction in education and training."

The Learmont report, produced after the 1995 Parkhurst Prison escape, recommended televisions as a "calming influence and a powerful incentive to good

INSIDE TODAY

THE EYE

Open

Lara Croft: The most exciting woman in the world

TODAY'S NEWS

Nanny left waiting

Tension was running high in the Boston courtroom where Louise Woodward, the British nanny accused of murdering a child in her care, was waiting to hear her face. The jury of nine women and three men had gone out for a second day of deliberation after spending the night in a hotel. Page 3

SEEN & HEARD

The image of the doughty librarian peering frostily over the top of her spectacles and tutting was obviously too much for one man who discovered two books 23 years overdue. He returned them to Learnington Spa library with a cheque for £380 to cover the fine. Staff at the library have used the money



WEATHER The Eye, TELEVISION The Eye, page 12 CROSSWORDS Page 32 and the Eye, page 9

Web address: http://www. independent.co.uk

The Independent has obtained evidence that thousands of men and women have been "disappeared" by police agents of the military-backed regime in Algeria. And for the first time, members of the Algerian security forces - now seeking asylum in Britain - have given fearful testimony of mass torture by government agents, murder in Algerian police stations and secret burials by the security forces.

We all knew it was happening in Algeria. For more than four years, released prisoners had told us of water torture and beatings, of suffocation with rags, of how their nails were ripped out by interrogators, of how women were gang-raped by policemen, of secret executions in police stations. But never before have members of the security forces provided the compelling evidence to

prove the brutality of the Algerian regime. And with documentary testimony that thousands - some say as many as 12,000 men and women have been "disappeared" by a government that claims to be fighting "international terrorism", Algeria's militarybacked government will find it hard ever

again to win sympathy in the West. A police officer who was in charge of the Algiers' city police armoury has described to The Independent how his colleagues killed prisoners in cold blood, how police torturers suffocated prisoners with acid-soaked rags after tearing out their nails and raping them with bottles. A 30-year old Algiers policewoman has told of how she watched prisoners - at the rate of 12 a day - tied half-naked to ladders in the Cavignac police station in Algiers while, screaming and pleading for mercy, salt water was pumped into their stomachs until they agreed, blindfolded, to sign confessions.

The same policewoman admitted to signing false death certificates to prove that dead prisoners had been "found" decomposing in the forests south of Algiers. A 23year old army conscript spoke of watching officers torture suspected "Islamist" prisoners by boring holes in their legs - and in one case, stomach - with electric drills in a dungeon called the "killing room". And he claimed that he found a false beard amid the clothing of soldiers who had returned from a raid on a village where 28 civilians were later found beheaded; the soldier suspects that his comrades had dressed up as Muslim rebels to carry out the atrocity.

No guerrilla war is clean. No army or police force fighting ruthless insurgents will maintain its bonour unscathed. And the socalled Islamic Armed Group (GIA) in Algeria, which has carved a unique and dreadful reputation for itself as the most savage guerrilla army on earth, can expect little mercy at the hands of its government opponents. GIA men - or those claiming to be its members - have attacked Algerian villages for more than a year, cutting the throats of women and children, burning babies alive in ovens, disembowelling pregnant women and slaughtering old men with axes. They have even employed

EXCLUSIVE BY ROBERT **FISK**

a mobile guillotine on the back of a truck to execute their enemies.

But evidence that the massacred villagers were themselves Islamists, and increasing proof that the Algerian security forces remained - at hest - incapable of coming to their rescue, has cast grave doubt on the government's role in Algeria's dirty war.

Indeed, repeated claims that the slaughtered villagers were "accomplices" of the GIA has raised suspicions that the Algerian regime, which seeks European support in its war against armed opponents, may have had a hand in provoking the slaughter. But the first-hand evidence from its own former security force personnel of torture and secret executions provides unequivocal testimony that the Algerian government has gone beyond the pale of civilised standards of warfare in fighting its enemies.

Among the names of "disappeared" men and women given to The Independent by an Algerian lawyer are those of young women uninvolved in politics - let alone religious

extremism - of old men and, in one case, a paraplegic in a wheelchair. A 28-year-old woman called Amina Benslimane, who was arrested almost three years ago by security police, is believed to have died under torture at the Chateauneuf police station in Algiers. The relatives of another woman have been told that the bones of one of her feet were broken while she was being interrogated about her brother who is a suspected member of an opposition group.

Confidential evidence from another Algerian lawyer states that a young newly married woman was raped in front of her husband to force him to reveal details of an Islamist group to which h was alleged he belonged. In the past, released prisoners have told of the gang-rape of women prisoners - in one case the rape of a grandmother who was dragged from a torture room covered in blood. Most of the torture in Algiers is carried out in two police commissariats, at Chateauneuf and nt Cavignac.

These two torture centres exert terror over the population of Algiers where - on the evidence of two women whose loved ones have been arrested, never to be seen again - men and women are now taken from their homes without arrest warrants or the production of identification papers by the security forces. "You cannot compare 'excesses' with putting babies in ovens," a government official told The Independent in Algiers last week. The frightful reality, however, is that the two sides

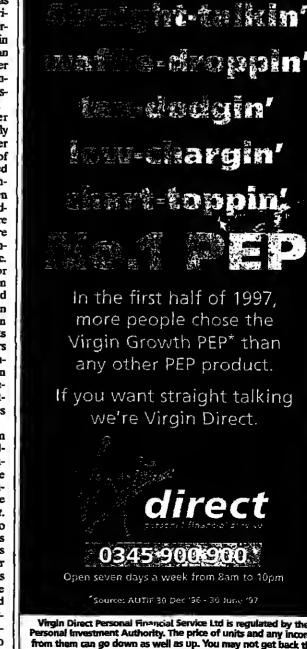
are now competing in cruelty. Inspector Abdessalam, who was in charge of police ordnance at the Dar al-Baida police station near Algiers international airport, has described how he watched as suspected "Islamists" were interrogated by torturers - some of whose

names have been given to The Independent. "Sometimes ... prisoners were forced to drink acid or a cloth was tied to their mouths and acid poured over it," he said. "Prisoners were forced to stand next to tables with their testicles on the table and their testicles would be beaten ... A small number of the prisoners gave information. Some preferred to be killed. Some died under water torture." Similar testimony came from a female detective called Dalilah who saw two men die strapped to a ladder in the Cavignac police station when their stomachs burst after salt water was pumped into them.

Algeria's terror, pages 8 and 9

ter to kin' e-droppin' decinin' iow-chargin' Charl-toppin' In the first half of 1997, more people chose the Virgin Growth PEP* than any other PEP product. If you want straight talking we're Virgin Direct. direct 0345 900 900 Open seven days a week from 8am to 10pm "Source: AUTIF 30 Dec '95 - 30 June '97 Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. The price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up. You may not get back the amount you invest. The basis of tax may change. The value of tax

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2/BRIEFING

COLUMN ONE

Blair's empty gesture may herald era of full houses

As it announced the opening of Admiralty Arch to down-and-outs this Christmas the Government said it hoped the move would prompt private owners of large empty properties to offer them as places of refuge

The politicians, could, of course, lead the way. During the summer recess the Commons and the Lords are mainly empty, yet a mile away there are people sleeping rough. Peter Kilfoyle, the public-services minister who handled the Arch initiative, may well want to pursue this option with his colleagues. He will also find it fruitful to talk to Tony Blair about Chequers, which is unused for long stretches. What better way, the Prime Minister may feel, of introducing those suffering from innercity deprivation to the pleasures of country life?

As in so many other things to do with this government, Peter Mandelson will undoubtedly wish to play a part. There have been many suggestions about what should go into the Millennium Dome, but no one, as yet, appeared to have considered the possibility that it can be a refuge as we move into the next century.

It would be unfair to leave the Conservatives out of this. They too should be allowed to show they are caring and sharing. After the election meltdown, cash-strapped Central Office carried out a cult of more than 50 officials at Smith Square and there is now said to he plenty of unoccupied space. Although the whole building cannot be given over to those in need, there could well be a way to allocate a part of it. Such an initiative would help William Hague show the Tories are once again a One Nation party after the excesses of Thatcherism.

If the politicians act, the Royal Family, in its current mood of offering greater accessibility, is likely to feel that it too ought to make a gesture. There is great scope: the Queen will need Balmoral during summer, but it is free the rest of the year. Indeed, while the royals are trekking up to Scotland, the down-and-outs can make a journey in reverse to the palaces of Buckingbam, Windsor and Kensington. The Royal Yacht Britannia, now on its valedictory voyage around the country, may yet be saved from the scrapheap, with a new life as a floating shelter.

Sporting bodies too can play a part. The MCC, for example, has the image of being stuffy and snobbish. It can counter this by making good use of Lords during the winter. Perhaps a dome of some sort can be built to protect those sheltering from the elements. Gordon Brown's spin-doctor, Charles Whelan, is said to be a MCC member, and someone with his can-do attitude would be ideal to get such a project off the ground. Back in the real world, charities have, on the whole, welcomed Mr Kilfoyle's initiative. But people in the field also point out that the chances of a raft of buildings suddenly being made available as refuges is extremely slim, and at the end of the day dramatic gestures, however headline-grabbing, are no substitute for long-term solutions. - Kim Sengubta

PEOPLE



Vera Lynn, the Forces' Sweetheart, joined the Spice Girls yesterday to launch this year's Poppy Appeal at the Albert Hall, London. They each read a line from Laurence Sinyon's poem The Follen.

Net closes in on Great Train robber Biggs

The law may have finally caught up with the Great detective Jack Slipper-he argued against extradition Train robber Ronnie Biggs after 32 years. The man who claimed be would never be put behind bars could be eating his words after Britain yesterday made him

the first target of a new extradition treaty with Brazil. An attempt to bring bim back from South America in 1974 ended in failure and embarrassment because of the absence of such an agreement but it is hoped this latest deal will ensure his capture and appearance before the courts within a year.

Biggs said yesterday: "I'm a positive thinker and I'd rather imagine I'm not going back to jail. The law is the law and I did escape from a prison sentence. I think it must be a natural chain of events, now that the extradition treaty exists, for the British government to seek my return to jail."

He escaped from Wandsworth Prison in 1965 after serving 15 months of a 30-year sentence for his part in taking £2.6m from a Glasgow-to-London mail train. He fled to Brazil via Australia in 1970 when the country had no extradition treaty with the UK and had plastic surgery in a vain attempt to prevent police tracking him. When arrested by Scotland Yard

on the basis that he had a Brazilian dependent, his son Michael, by his girlfriend Raimunda.

Yesterday Mr Slipper said Biggs, now 68, should be left alone, because he did not look in good shape, would probably be a drain on the NHS and would want to draw a pension.

But Britain and Brazil ratified a treaty in August which closed the legal loophole that has allowed Biges to live the high life in Rio de Janeiro for the past 27 years and the new arrangement is retroactive for offences committed before the date of its coming into force. If successful, Biggs could face nearly 29 years behind bars, although the actual sentence is likely to be reduced because of his age and the time which has elapsed since his escaped.

However, lawyers for Biggs are expected to appeal on the Brazilian statutes of limitation, which annuls punishment if a criminal succeeds in avoiding the authorities for more than 15 years. They may also claim that the same crime, committed in Brazil, would have resulted in a lesser sentence.

Head of reservists

is Royal Navy's first

female commodore

Muriel Hocking became the first female com-

modore yesterday when she took over as head

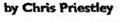
of the Royal Naval Reserve in a ceremony at

Commodore Hocking, 52, will be the senior

- Amanda Kelly

7.30 FOR 8

ZITS











by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



reserve naval officer, heading the country's 2,700 men and women volunteer naval

She took over from Commodore Gordon MacDonald in a ceremony on board Nelson's flagship, HMS Victory, and her responsibilities will include advising on policy and providing trained reserve manpower to help with the Navy's operational tasks.

She started her career in the Navy in 1963. when she joined the Women's Royal Naval

After six years of regular service she married and then joined the Women's Royal Naval Reserve at HMS Scotia, near Rosyth.

She accompanied her husband, Malcolm Hocking, a naval dental surgeon, on overseas tours, continuing her reservist service, and was promoted to captain in 1992.

In 1995 she was appointed director training and aide-de-campe to the Queen for two

A keen sportswoman who now enjoys golf, she has been a Royal Navy ski champion, the Bisley Skill at Arms champion, and represented Devon and West Scotland in squash.

She will work from HMS Vivid. Plymouth, near the home she shares with her husband.

UPDATE

TECHNOLOGY

Trek's 'phaser' comes into focus

It's a phaser, Jim, but rather bigger than we know it. A Californian has patented a device which acts like the "phaser" of Star Trek fame - able to disable or even kill at a distance with a beam of light. But it is slightly larger than the sidearm carried by Captain Kirk and Mr Spock: the present-day version would be larger than a kitchen table. However, given the way lasers have shrunk, the real phaser may not be too far away.

Hans Eric Herr, from San Diego, has been granted a patent on a device which uses a laser to generate ultra-violet light that creates a path of ionised air along which an electric current is sent. Depending on its size. it can cause muscle contractions, stun a victim, or kill by inducing a heart

It resembles the "taser" used by US police, which fires darts attached attack. to wires; a current sent through the wires causes the victim's muscles to contract and briefly paralyse them. Mr Herr's invention has a greater range, of more than 100m, and its beams can penetrate clothing. But it needs an argon-fluoride laser as big as a kitchen tahle, New Scientist magazine

However, that should not be viewed as an overwhelming obstacle. Anthony Bell, an expert on laser-produced plasmas at Imperial College. London, said. There's nothing here that I would completely rule out. The amount of energy required is not that large, and you don't need a laser that takes up a whole warehouse.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Call for shake-up of watchdogs

A shake-up of utility watchdogs is needed if consumers are to reap the full benefits of privatisation, the Consumers' Association said vesterday. Although most bills have fallen since the utilines were privatised, water charges have shot up 39 per cent, while shareholders have pocketed soar-

ing dividend payments, it claims in a report. The independent body said even bills which have fallen could have dropped faster and further. It is calling for tougher and more transparent regulation to ensure better protection for consumers. The study concludes that overall standards of service have improved and costs have fallen for customers in the electricity, gas, water and telecoms industries. However, price cuts have not affected all consumers equally, with huge variations in bills emerging across the country and in different sectors. In the gas industry, household bills have fallen by around 24 per cent since 1986, while business hills have dropped up to twice as much - up to 54 per cent,

PUBLIC HEALTH

When illness can be a cure

Illness could improve the quality of life for some people, a university health researcher claimed yesterday. Most of those who took part in the survey on whether illness could bring benefits felt it had improved their life sitnation. "Several participants declared their illness had improved their life by 100 per cent," said Samantha Sodergren, of Plymouth University's quality of life research centre.

The survey included people aged 20 to 81, with illnesses including cancer and depression. "Some people said it had been the making of their marriage because it brought them closer to their partner," said Ms Sodergren. Those who felt there were benefits said illness gave them time to take stock and gave them a greater appreciation of others. But she added that not everyone suffering an illness would feel that way.

EMPLOYMENT

Working week gets longer

Few British firms are cutting the working week for their staff - and hours are increasing for some groups of employees, according to a report yesterday. Fewer than 2 per cent of 500 organisations polled have reduced the number of working hours this year, it found.

In some cases, hours increased to harmonise conditions with other staff groups, according to the report by research group Incomes Data Services. "At a time when the French and Italian governments are pressing employers to move to a 35-hour week, there are no signs that British employers intend to follow the example of their continental counterparts," said the report. The survey found a 39-hour week was still worked by most manual employees, compared to as few as 35 hours for non-manual staff. Both groups usually have 25 days' holiday after one year's service, although many are given extra leave the longer they stay with a company.

SOCIAL TRENDS

CONTENTS

The way we live

Algeria's terror

Education news

The life of loners

Record numbers of people are choosing to live alone, according to research published yesterday. About 5.3 million people live on their own in Britain today, representing more than a quarter of all households. This is up from the 18 per cent recorded 20 years ago - and the number is still

Researchers said the trend had been fuelled by a combination of rising numbers of single and divorced people and the growing number of people, in particular single men and divorced women, staying alone. The findings follow a two-year study into living trends in the UK and France, which bas seen a similar leap in the number of lone householders. Dr Ray Hall, who carried out the study with Professor Philip Ogden at Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, said: "Our research shows that more young people are actively choosing to live alone. Although one-person households have traditionally been associated with the elderly, there are increasing numbers of people under 40 who are opting to live alone. This is especially true amongst professional and managerial classes, possibly because job mobility is important to them."

Leader, letters

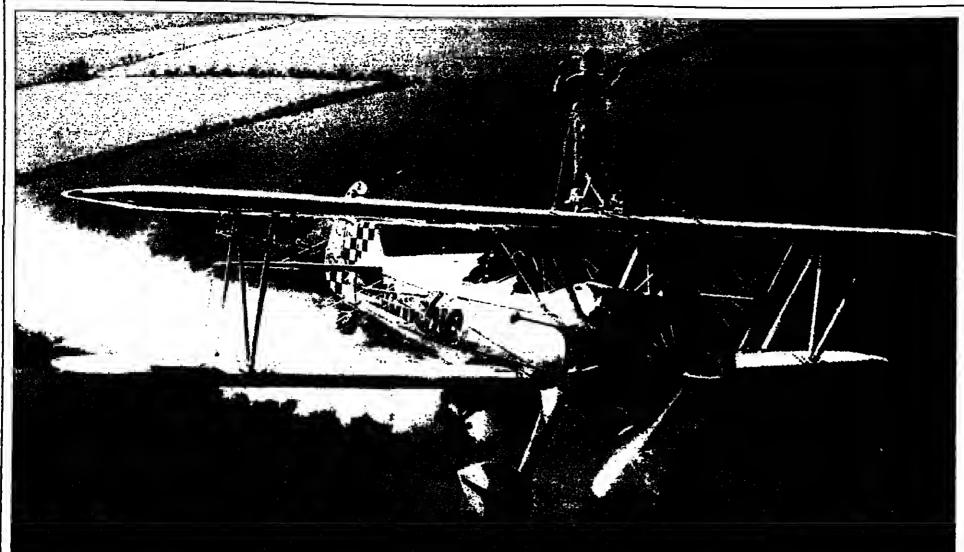
Comment

DON'T FALL DOWN ON YOUR RRR'S	Just roll in
	Just roll it round your tongue.
GRRRAHAM'S PORT	GRAHAM'S THE PORT OF AUTHORITY

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Australia (dollars) Australia (dollars) Austria (schillings) Belgium (francs) Canada (\$) Cyprus (pounds) Denmark (kroner) France (francs) Germany (marks) Greece (drachmei) Hong Kong (\$) Ireland (punss)	2.27 19.76 58.05 2.27 0.82 10.78 9.41 2.82 447.84 (2.49 1.08	Netherlands (guilders) Norway (kroner) Porcugal (escudos) Spain (pesetas) Sweden (kroner) Switzerland (francs) Turkey (lira) USA (\$)	2,769 198.27 0.62 3, 17 11.46 285, 17 236.65 12.27 2.31 294906 1.62
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Flying high: Lady Philippa Howard, aged 12, became the youngest person in the world to wing-walk when she was strapped to the top-wing of a vintage biplane yesterday. Afterwards, Lady Philippa said she had enjoyed the stunt and that she wanted to become a professional wing-walker when she grows up Photograph: Tom Pilston

INTHE INDEPENDENT **TOMORROW**

IN THE EYE



Kim Basinger: The curse of beauty



Paul McWho? The forgotten Oasis star



Vaughan Williams:

Progress for the Pilgrim

Plus: Ryan Gilbey

Tension tells as Woodward family wait

The defence accused prosecutors of making a snap judgment in pressing Murder One against Louise Woodward. With the jury out, David Usbome waits with the Woodward family and feels the tension.

comes into lock

FAR CAR De a com

¥ 2.00 €

Forgive Gary Woodward for since Monday's closing argubreaking the law. The jury in the

ond day of deliberation and the and there is no guessing where waiting is hard - bow bard none of us can begin to imagbe found lurking in the courthouse stairwell drawing on a cigarette. Smoking is forbidden in the building.

When only days ago the defence could harely disguise its fatally assaulting nine-month-old they were wrong. Matthew Eappen in February, ments the mood has changed.

they will go. Some of the omens do not

ine. So, occasionally. Gary is to look good for Ms Woodward. Already, this is not going the way of the OJ Simpson trial, when the not guilty verdict came in less than three hours. This jury has begun to ask questions and seek clarifications from Judge anticipation of an acquittal for Hiller Zobel. If anyone thought Louise Woodward, accused of there was an instant defence win

Barry Scheck, the lead defence lawyer, has meanwhile made little secret of his dismay trial of his daughter is in its sec- Now the jurors have the case that four men and, more im-

were chosen, by lots, from the 16 are stuck. who sat through the three week trial, Mr Scheck's concern is that his case hangs on complex medical evidence that will take a high degree of understanding.

The waiting could take many more bours, even days - and it could end in a hung jury, be- ently been receiving. Mostly, cause in Massachusetts only a unaoimous verdict will do. If her of putting her medical cayou have 11 jurors who buy Mr reer before her own child by sur-Scheck's defence line that rendering him to a babysitter. said they agreed with it. Fifteen Matthew did not die of anything

qualified men, missed out on but from an earlier head injury, Monday when the 12 jurors and one who does not, then you Meanwhile, members of the

> Eappen family yesterday made their first comments on national television in the US, not about the case itself but about hate mail that Matthew's mother, Deborah, has apparthey are from people accusing

portantly for him, four bighly inflicted on him on 4 February told ABC TV: "This case is have been filed, 26 per cent had about Louise Woodward and no opinion. Massachusetts has recently the actions she took against Matt. Working parents and Debbie specifically should not

be on trial." A poll in the Boston Herald yesterday exposed a strong tide of opinion that the local District Attorney, Thomas Reilly, overreached by pressing the murder one charge against Ms Woodward. Of those asked, 47 per cent said murder one was inappropriate while 11 per cent Ms Eappen's sister, Susan, per cent said no charge should

reintroduced the death penalty following a string of grisly

murders in the state. On Monday the House of Representatives in the state legislature followed the senate in approving laws for death by lethal injection for crimes that would include child murder. There could, however, be no retrospective application of such a law to Ms Woodward even, should there be a bung jury, if the state chooses to re-try ber.

on the latest films

Tories in trouble over Europe again as frontbencher resigns

Kenneth Clarke is emerging as a rallying figure for pro-European dissent in the Tory Party. A front bencher resigned from William Hague's team and another MP was poised to defect. Colin Brown and Fran Abrams report on the deepening split in the ranks.

Ian Taylor, the Conservative spokesman nn Nnrthern Ireland, told William Hague in a letter of resignation from the pro-European Tory MP. front bench that his decision to commit the party to "saving sterling" was "false and dangerous".

night warned that the party's dia total split on the Conservative currency. benches. "There will be two Clarke. A lot of us will come out and say things we are restrainnoment," said one prominent Mr Clarke said.



lan Taylor: Pro-European at odds with the party line

The resignation came on the same day that Kenneth Clarke, the former chancellor, Pro-European MPs last raised the prospect of a crossparty alliance in favour of vision on Europe could lead in Britain's entry into the single

Last night he issued a state-Tory parties - one behind ment supporting Mr Taylor's de-Hague and one behind Ken cision. It was "a predictable result of the shadow cabinet's decision to change the policy on ing ourselves from saying at the the single currency last week,"

Mr Taylor said the Tory leader bad promised to take his views into account when he nffered him the job. But as a passionate pro-European, be was at odds with the party line.

Meanwhile, Peter Temple-Morris, Tory MP for Learninster, was believed to be close to joining Labour last night. He, too, has suggested be might be driven nut of his party by its more anti-Enropean stance, but fellow members are trying

Three shadow cabinet ministers - David Curry, Stephen Dorrell and Sir George Young -who have been forced to accept a tougher line against European economic and monetary union will not resign from the front bench, despite continued

The hardening of the antieuro policy was not raised last night at a shadow cabinet meeting and the leadership made it clear that Mr Hague was not

prepared to reopen the issue. Mr Clarke insisted his support for a "yes" vnte in a euro referendum would depend on

the circumstances. In a letter to William Hague, Mr Taylor said it was with "great sadness" that he had decided to step down. He said he wished to play a greater part in the forthcoming debate than the role would allow him.

"This is above all not a time to have marginalised our party by making long-term commitments that bear little relationship to reality, nor a moment to inject a new outright hostility towards EMU," he said.

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Britpop goes on the tourist map

Whoever now lives at 6-8 Denmark its art-school old boy Charlie Watts, the Britain as well as our traditional heritage." British Tourist Authority for it when Japanese retro-punks start knocking on their door, but they've been put on the Rock and Pop map of Britain.

As the one-time squat occupied by John Lydon, Glen Matlock and Paul Cook when they were on the threshold of becoming The Sex Pistols, it is one of the highlights of an effort by the British Tourist Anthonity (BTA) to market "Cool Britamia".

The map, containing thousands of entries, will be published next year and the BTA is confident it hasn't missed anything out.

In Durham, it will tell you where to Sprout got his hair cut. It lists Harrow for bow. We can highlight contemporary

Street, in Soho, probably won't thank the Rolling Stones' drummer, but doesn't forget to mention that the school also turned out the rather less well-known Marco Pironi of Adam and the Ants. In Hull it will show you the shop that inspired the name of Everything but the Girl.

The map stretches back in time far enough to include the birthplaces of the Rolling Stones and is contemporary enough to inelade Stocks Country Club near Tring, Hertfordshire, where Oasis was photographed for the cover of their most recent album, Be Here Now.

"The map is designed as part of a strategy to attract more young visitors," said Debbie Holden of the BTA. "We want to use the current popularity of 'Cool Brifind the barber's shop where Paddy tannia' and of our popular music around MacAloon of Eighties band Prefab the world to add another string to our culture rather than to America.

The BTA announced the planned man when it delivered its annual report yesterday. In 1996 a total of 25.3m visitors came to Britain and spent a record

Of those visitors 24 per cent were under 25 and they spent £2.60n. The BTA wants to target them because most tourists are repeat visitors - so it wants to catch travellers young and get them in the habit of coming to the UK.

The authority is also interested in targeting the tiger economies of the Far East. Whereas, 10 years ago, British backpackers were travelling through Thailand and Malaysia, now young Asian travellers are doing the backpacking and they are increasingly attracted to British youth

— Paul McCann



NICAM STEREO

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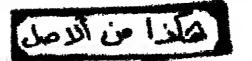


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ession

Fetish wear: rubber, leather, lace, chains and spikes have inspired fashion designers and spiced up the catwalk. Now as thousands of clubbers attend fetish parties every month. Paul McCann looks at an underground scene that is becoming increasingly mainstream.

Hammersmith and Fulham Council deatt a minor blow to the booming world of fetish parties this week when it turned down an application for a music and dancing licence from the promoters of The Erotic Ball.

Wambam, a promotions company run by the aristocratic heir to the knebworth estate. Henry Cohbold, wanted to host a "strict dress code" party at Olympia, the exhibition centre in west London, at the

end of next month. Despite the set-back, the scale of the promoter's amhitions illustrates the popularity London.

of the London fetish scene. With 8,000 clubbers dancing

party in central London Takings for the night were expected to be more than £300,000 and star-name DJs, such as Judge Jules and Tony Dc Vit, had been signed up to pluy.

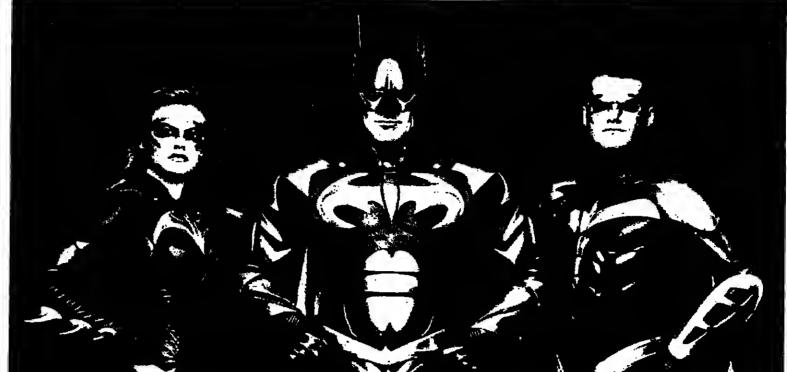
But fetishists need not throw out their rubber frocks. The annual Rubber Ball celehrates its fifth hirthday next week at the Hammersmith Palais when 3,000 people will squeak the night away for the CruseAid Aids charity.

Fetish parties are no longer special annual events. Each month three to four thousand Londoners dress up for evenings in club venues such as the Ministry of Sound and The Complex. The biggest regular fetish nights in London are Submission and the Torture Garden. "If you had told me five

years ago that there would be a regular fetish cluh night in Weston-super-Mare I would have said you were craekers," said Tim Woodward, editor of the fetish magazine Skin Two. "Now there are clubs in

Kidderminster and Colchester as well all the major cities and four or five nights a month in

The weekend of the Rubber Ball is the biggest S&M



proud of. London will be full of pervs this weekend."

So hig is the event that it in three rooms it would have fetish event in the world. It is even has its own crafts market, been the higgest legal indoor something Britain can be or fetish fare, where people sell

home made implements. "The fetish world has stayed underground for a long time."

Ball's promoters Wambam.

go somewhere and live out says Anna Stokes of the Erutic their escapist fantasks. It works

But there is a growing evening. Unless you take off come from a post-Aids need for people to be able to your suit and get into disguise you can't act out this stuff."

Mr Woodward believes the

aesthetic of sex. "It's not enough just to

have sex anymore. You want to as a kind of sexual counselling growth in fetish parties has look. You want to experiment,"

Stripping for action: Cartoon fantasy heroes such as Batman are often used as role models for fetish party-goers

Photograph: Reuters

on the scene don't take themselves too seriously. "You don't have to have read the entire works of the

he said. But he added people

Marquis De Sade," he said. "There's quite a big element of Carry On movies and SI

Trinians about the entire scene which I welcome." There are varying degrees of explicit behaviour and dressing

at the fetish parties in London. All of them insist that people dress the part, mainly to keep out groups of single men looking for a free ogle.

But other parties, where the acts are more explicit and some of the party-goers are reportedly well-known public figures, are members only.

In the more public events it is all about "looking not touching", says Francesca Malan, a rubber devotee who has been to numerous fetish parties.

People may think we're just sick exhibitionists, but really it is about the safest sex of all -

Smokers are more pessimistic people

Far from closing their eyes to the chance of getting lung cancer, smokers are risk-takers who actually overestimate their

chances of succumbing. says a report.

Glendo Cooper, Social Affairs Correspondent, says this has important implications for anti-smoking education campaigns.

Smokers are more pessimistic about the health risks they run by lighting up and overestimate cancer or heart disease. They are also more likely to think they could be run over or murdered compared with their non-smok-

Usually when asked to assess the risk of something happen ing to them, people think it is more likely to happen to someone else and it has been thought that smokers ignore the health risks they run.

However, a survey in Britain and Norway by the Economic and Social Research Council found that, on average, smokers rate their personal lifetime risk of getting lung cancer to be 41 per cent and the chance of developing heart disease to he 47 per cent.

Data from studies in Canada suggests that 17 per cent of male smokers and 11 per cent of female smokers will eventually develop lung cancer.

The survey of more than 8,000 respondents found that smokers also tend to overestimate the eigarette consumption of the average smoker - 15 cigarettes a day.

Light smokers thought the average consumption was personal health risks. around 21 cigarettes a day average at 23 per day.

Strokers gave significantly higher estimates than ex-smokers and complete non-smokers for the dangers they face in life their risks of contracting lung - from being the victim of a murder to being killed on the roads - suggesting that smokers appear to regard life as more dangerous with a greater risk of traumatic death.

However, for the risk of being killed by anoking the estimates were remarkably similar, suggesting that smokers are less knowledgeable about the risks than non-smokers or that non-smokers tend to exaggerate the risks to smokers.

"There is no evidence that smokers tend to deny the health risks of smoking or are less knowledgeable about the risks than non-smokers or that non-

risks relative to smokers," said Dr Stephen Sutton, of University College London, who carried out the research.

Older smokers and lighter smokers were more optimistic about the health risks, but there were no class differences in perceptions of risk and few important sex differences. Not only do men and women have a similar smoking prevalence but those who do smoke have similar perceptions of the

Taken overall, says Dr Sutimplications for smoking eduextion compatens. He Ends no evidence that would support targeting women rather than men or particular classes. But he does suggest that providing accurate information about the cigarette consumption of the average smoker might influence smokers' risk judgements.

One other unusual finding that was thrown up by the sarvey was that while people in general think they are less likely to be mugged or have a serious road accident than other people, they are sufficiently realistic about other things.

Despite persuasive advertising for the National Lottery people do not generally think it could be them - they think other people are more likely to win a large sum of money on the lotsmokers tend to exaggerate the tery or pools than they are.

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Unpaid overtime is curse of professional classes

he curse of the professional classes with people now working as much unpaid overtime as paid overtime, according to a

More than one in five workers say they work extra hours for no money every week. Among managers the proportion rises to more than half. An eighth of these managers say they are working at least 13 hours a week unpaid.

Britain has been criticised for its long working week compared with other European countries. Professor Bob Hart of the University of Stirling, who carried out the research for the Economic and Social Research Council, said the reality "may be twice as bad as we thought as this comparison only took account of paid work.

20,000 male and female employees from the Labour Force Survey it seems that the quantitative importance of unpaid overtime is on a par with paid overtime," he add

Inpaid overtime has become £7.28 an hour, when the amount of unpaid overtime is accounted for wages drop to £6.78 an hour. Workers average 1.4 unpaid hours a week in comparison with 1.6 paid overtime people had second jobs.

> A female graduate earned on average £5.30 an hour for her paid work. But when the amount of unpaid work was factored in her wages dropped to £4.77 - 10 per cent less.

Professor Hart found there was no improvement over time - if anything the reverse was

After 20 years her average wage would be £10.74 an hour but when unpaid hours were taken into account it worked out as £9.17 - 14 per cent less. The situation was slightly

better for men, who started on wage of £5.70. This was reduced to £5.20 when unpaid hours were taken into account (an 8.8 per cent difference), reaching £13 an hour after 20 years, which was worked out as an 'unexpected outcome' of being worth £11.30 after our work on multiple job holdunpaid work was taken into ing and open up a major new account, a reduction of 13 per area of market interest."

The professor said he started the research after being surprised by the number of overtime hours uncovered when he was researching how many

The burden falls mainly on the managerial and professional classes, where 51 per cent say they work unpaid hours compared with only 9 per cent who get paid.

The reverse was true for plant and machine operatives. only 4 per cent of whom work unpaid overtime compared with nearly half who are paid for extra hours.

The implications of the findings, said Professor Hart, concerns the effect of unpaid work on pay differentials.

'If hourly wages are adjusted to allow for unpaid work then this serves to reduce significantly the estimated returns of education, work experience and tenure," he said. "These findings are very much

Doubt cast on red meat link with cancer

Last month, the Government issued an unprecedented warning to cut down on consumption of red meat. Glenda Cooper, Social Affairs Correspondent, examines claims yesterday that European studies of health and diet show no evidence of a link between eating red meat and cancer.

The reason for the apparent difference betweeo the Government's warning and yesterday's announcement may be the high geoeral intake of fruit and vegetables in Europe, according to the study.

Previous data from America and Australasia had indicated that red meat consumption increased the risk of colon cancer, and last mooth Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, issued an official warning that too much red meat could be dangerous. At the same time, a report from the World Cancer Research Fund. called for similar dietary changes, It said 100,000 cases of cancer in the UK could be prevented each year by changes io diet.

People who are average amounts of meat - eight to 10 portions a week, or 90 grams a day - were advised in rein back. while those who are 12 to 14 portions a week were urged to cut their consumption. The recommendations were based on the findings of a preliminary report from the Committee on the Medical Aspects of Food and Nutrition Policy (Coma).

But Dr Michele Sadler, senior nutri-

tionist at the British Nutrition Foundation (BNF) - a scieotific charity whose members include food companies and the Meat and Livestock Commission - questioned the premise that eating less red meat reduced the risk of cancer.

At a seminar organised by the foundation, research was presented saying that nine major studies conducted in Enrope failed to reveal any link between red meat and an increased risk of colon cancer. "Red meat intake has been falling in the UK over the past three decades and colon cancer rates have been rising," said Dr Sadler.

"It is not clear from the current evidence that lowering average red meat intake will reduce colon cancer. However, high meat consumers are advised to cut down ...

The main emphasis must be that we must eat more fruit and vegetables."

Dr Michael Hill, chairman of the European Cancer Prevention Organisation, said: "Greece and other Mediterranean countries have a high intake of fruit and vegetables and this appears to offset any effect from a high intake of red meat."

Earlier this month, researchers from Cambridge University's Institute of Public Health reported - after monitoring the health of 3,500 people - that there was "no evidence that frequent consumptino of meat is a risk factor for cancer".

A spokeswoman for the Department of Health said "Obviously we are interested to hear the BNF's interpretation of the scientific evidence. Someone from Coma secretariat atteoded the meeting and listened carefully to the arguments.



Colour Sergeant John Deot inspecting potential recruits at the Queen Elizabeth Barracks at Strensall, near York, vesterday. The Army is trying to boost its ranks and is holding a recruitment drive among homeless people. These four on parade were among a bus-load of homeless people from Leeds, taken to see Army life at first hand.

The "Look at Life Day" allowed people aged between 17 and 26 to try out assault courses, a parachute training tower and talk to soldiers serving with the Parachute Regiment.

But officials were quick to dispel ideas that the Army was taking desperate measures to make up a shortfall of 4,000 soldiers. A Ministry of Defence

spokesman said: "We are not recruiting dossers and winos from cardboard city. We are exploring avenues where there are potential recruits."

Officers from the Leeds Armed Forces Career Office visited hostels and homelessness schemes in the city to in-

vite youngsters to consider joining up. Photograph: Steve Forrest/Guzelian

Fifth student ill with meningitis

A mass immunisation programme is continuing at Southampton University, as it was confirmed last night that a fifth student had been admitted to hospital with suspected meningitis.

Two undergraduates at the university have died from the disease this month and two others are already in hospital.

The announcement of the new case came as hospital officials said that a student from Leicester University had died of meningitis just hours after being sent home from a casualty department. Chantelle McCallum, 20, a second-year sociology student at Leicester University, died at the city's Royal Infirmary on Monday morning.

Peter Homa, chief executive of Leicester Royal Infirmary NHS Trust, said he was satisfied the correct clinical decisions had

beeo made. All first-year students at Southampton University's Wessex Lane halls, which house around 1,200 students and where the victims lived, are being affered immunisation against meningococcus group C and have been offered antibiotics.

In the first hour of the immunisation programme 300 students were vaccinated, a university spokesman said. Immunisatinn sessions are expected to continue today.

The fifth student was admitted to hospital in Southampton on Tuesday with as yet unconfirmed meningitis. Another male student is in hospital in Southampton and a third man has been admitted to a hospital in the Thames Valley area. The university said all three are making good progress. A 19-year-old female student died on 11 October, and a second 19-year-old female student died on Monday.



Record sums being paid to 'sick' police

Record sums are being paid to police officers retiring because of ill health. But, writes Jason Bennetto, Crime Correspondent, a significant number of the "sick" are really fleeing justice.

Police officers retiring on medical grounds -- including some who are leaving to avoid ailegations of corruption and malpractice -- cost £330m a year.

In some forces, three-quarters of officers use ill health to

retire early oo a full pension. The chief inspector of the rising oumber, which oow retirements.

Police chiefs are coocerned about the growing pension bill, which makes up £750m of the total £6.7bn available to forces in England and Wales. police has warned: "We may ical grounds.

They believe a oumber of officers are using medical grounds to escape disciplinary hearings.

Police pensions, which are guaranteed and come from the overall crime budget, rose 10 per cent in the past year. Merseyside police force has

the highest number of medical

retirements, which account for

77 per cent a year, followed by North Yorkshire police at 76.5 per cent and Greater Manchester at 65 per cent. From 1995-96, more than 70 per ceot of Metropolitan police officers under investigation or facing disciplinary charges retired on medical grounds-31

out of 41 departures. It fell to about half last year. David O'Dowd, HM Chief Police Service is alarmed at the Inspector of Constabulary, said in his annual report published accounts for 45 per cent of all yesterday, that he was "particularly concerned" about the

> "continuing high level of medical retirements". Sir Paul Condoo, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan

reach a position where the only thing a corrupt officer fears is leaving the service under an illhealth pensioo".

As disclosed in The Independent earlier this mooth, an unpublished report from a joint Home Office/Treasury working party will say that up to 25 pence of every pound of public mooey earmarked for fighting crime and protecting property against fire will sooo be speot an the pensions of retired police and fire officers.

That figure could rise to 50 tic and immediate reforms. The maney is being spent oo meeting the gap between existing staff cootributions and payments to retired officers.

Although the number of officers retiring has dropped slightly, the costs cootinue to escalate because wages are higher and people live longer. To get a pensinn, officers usually have to serve 30 years, but they can short cut this by retiring on med-

Lawyer cleared of assault on woman bouncer

A City lawyer who punched a female nightclub bouncer unconscious by mistake was cleared of assault yesterday.

Hywel Phillip, 25, was said to have deliberately lashed out at Anita Gardner at the Roadhouse nightcluh in Covent Garden, London, after she tried to stop him pushing through a cloakroom queue.

The 24-year-old woman, who has been a minder for stars like Diana Ross and Eric Clapton, told Southwark Crown Court she momentarily blacked out after she fell to the floor and the lawyer began raining blows on her.

But Mr Phillip, cleared of the charges of actual bodily harm after a 15-minute jury retirement, maintained he had been acting in self-defence after being hit by a man, and had been "flabbergasted" when he realised he had struck a woman.

Is time-travel possible?

Time travel may oot be as fanciful as it sounds If the latest mind-boggling theory from physicists proves to be correct. Scientists are beginning to take seriously the suggestion that there may be a second, hidden, dimensino of time. If it could be unwrapped, by focusing a huge amount of enerry into a tiny volume, the consequences would mean that, for example, an undesirable event seen looming in the "future" could simply be side-stepped.

The notion was originally put forward by physicist Cumrun Vafa from Harvard University in the United States. "At this point, it's making the formalism look nice," Mr Vafa told New Scientist magazine. "Whenever that happens in the history of physics, there's usually something behind it." It is unlikely that enough energy exists anywhere in the universe to unleash the hidden time. However, some physicists speculate that this could happen in the centre of a black hole.

Blaze police find two dead

A murder inquiry has been set up after a man and a woman were found dead at a bungalow near Penrith, Cumbria police said vesterday.

The bodies were discovered after firefighters called in the house in the village of Troutbeck found a fierce blaze in the engine of a car inside a garage. After putting the fire nut they found a man's body slumped inside and following a search of the house a woman's body was discovered on a bed. A police spokesman said neither person had been identified. but they were not thought to be local

Prices rise with El Nino

British shoppers could face significant price rises for food and drink because of the socalled El Nino weather system in the Pacific, according to a report yesterday.

Weather around the world has been thrown out of kilter because of El Nino, an unusually warm water current which develops about once a decade and is this year thought to be at its worst for about 150 years.

It has already caused drought in South-east Asia and flooding in South America, and experts at the Economist Intelligence Unit believe its impact oo crops such as cocoa, coffee and sugar will drive prices up.

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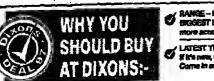
Just how badly the crop harvests will be affected will not be known for a few months.

But previous years in which El Nino has been strong have led to commundity price iocreases as high as 56 per cent, said EIU expert Karen St Jean, author of the report entitled World Commodity Forecasts - Food, Feedstuffs and Beverages.

She said: "The last bad El Nino year was 1982, and that led to 7 per cent price rises in 1983 and a further 5 per cent the year after. Shoppers can expect to see higher prices on the supermarkel shelves."

Flooding and heavy rain in South America early this year, which have been blamed on El Nino, led to a 20-30 per ceot increase in the UK retail price of coffee, she added.

However, the impact on prices would be cushioned by large reserves of stocks.



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One man's heroic fight against a regime with a taste for torture rested on 3 May this year. No 'T'm a lawyer' but the police of-

Under constant surveillance by Algeria's security police, Mohamed Tahri acts as lawyer for thousands of families whose relatives women as well as men have been "disappeared" by government agents since 1991. As our correspondent found in Algiers, the police are standing at the door even when Mr Tahri talks to journalists.



Face of agony: After a few months, relatives of Algeria's 'disappeared' have to assume their loved one is dead

FISK

out any hope of seeing her

daughter again. Amina, they

have told her, was tortured to

Each time Maitre Tahri pro-

duces a photograph, I catch

sight of hundreds of others; of

hland, middle-aged men, of

suspected "Islamists" in beards,

and girls and old men. The old-

est "disappeared" in the Tahri

files is 74-year-old Ahmed

Aboud, arrested on 23 Febru-

year-old Brahim Maghraoui.

Maitre Mohamed Tahri puts the number of "disappeared" at 12,000. But the moment you are tempted to dispute this terrible figure, s young women in a white headscarf walks quietly through the door and whispers in Mr Tahri's ear. The 46-year-old lawyer lis-

tens without emotion, his eyes open, delicate face. on the floor. He is a little moustachioed vole of a man with sharp eyes, impressive but no match for the lanky "flics" who have arrived at his office. I catch sight of them hriefly, tall, thin men staring through the front door, the noise of the poor Algiers suhurb of Kouha behind them. Above Maitre Tahri, his court robes hang on the wall: black with white fur edges, a fading symbol of the Napoleonic law that once governed Algeria. But the government now is a

few feet away. "She says the men have come from the commissariat of police and want to see me again," Mr Tahri mutters. On his desk there lies a file of photographs, thousands of them, men and women, the quick and the dead, all "disappeared" by the Algerian police - the very

have proof of government viosame "flics" who are now at the door. Mr Tahri pulls coloured snapshots out of the file to give to me; two young women, one in a patterned black pullover with a heart-shaped broach, a fringe over her forehead, the other sitting in a photographer's studio in a long red dress, a thinner fringe but with the same

Naima and Nedjoua Boughaba are sisters, aged 23 and 29; both were arrested by Algerian police on 12 April this year. Both were court clerks, one working for an Algiers judge who by misfortune was investigating a list of suspected "Islamists" drawn up by the Swiss police - and sold by a Swiss policemen to the Algerian intelligence services. They were kidnapped by government agents outside the trihunal. They are thought to be alive.

Mr Tahri pulls another snapshot out of his file, of a beautiful young girl with a radiant face. her tousled hair held back by a pink band, half-smiling at the photographer. Amina Beuslimane is alleged to have taken photographs of cemeteries and blown-up buildings - perhaps to one knows why.

An attractive young women in a red dress with Princess Diana-style hair, Saida Kheroui is -or was - the sister of a wanted member of an armed "Islamist" group. Her snapshot is smaller than the others. She was "disappeared" by intelligence

7 May. All that is known of her fate is that the security police, during her interrogation, broke

the bones of one of her feet. To he "disappeared" requires a definition: it is to be unheard of after arrest. Family and friends will visit the police stations of Algeria's cities in the hope of finding their loved one's place of incarceration. If lence against civilians. She was after three or four months, 28 when she was arrested by sethey hear nothing, the missing curity police on 13 December man or woman is generally 1994, never to be seen again. dead. Since the police have no Her mother has been advised by knowledge of him or her, they friends who have contacts in the cannot be accused of responsiprisons that she must not hold bility for their murder. That is what it is like to join the list of BY ROBERT

the "disappeared". Mohamed Tahri was frightened last week that he was about to be added to the list. He had called a meeting of mothers of "disappeared" in front of Algiers' central post office. The police broke it up.

They told me not to follow the protesters," he says to us in an ultra-quiet voice, aware that the police are still lingering at the front door. "They told me to go down a side street where there were only policemen and I was afraid I would be kidnapped. So I started shouting: 'I am a lawyer, I defend human rights - you have no right to hinder my movements'. I took out my professional card but there ary this year. The youngest is 15was a high-ranking policeman pushing me to prevent me be-A photocopy of a photoing able to leave." Policemen graph shows Moussa Maddi, a surrounded Mr Tahri. "I said paraplegic in a wheelchair ar-

ficer said: 'You're not a lawyer - you're a traitor because you have contact with foreigners and the so-called human rights organisations'. When I said I refused to go down the street into which the police were trying to make me go, the officer said: 'Take him in'.

"They took me to an office at the Cavignac police station - I knew people who had died there under torture. They said to me: You are the one who gives information to Amnesty International and other organisations ... you're the one who arranges the demonstrations, who causes trouble in this country'. From there they took me to the commissariat in Colonel Amirouche street where I stayed for six hours. There they told me: You have contacts with journalists. You have contacts

with Amnesty International'." At the back of Mr Tahri's office, a thin lace curtain shields the room from the hillside above Kouba, just in case anyone should choose to take a pot-

"The threat is everywhere," he says. "A few days ago, a woman saw three of her neighbours arrested just before a human rights organisation telephoned her from abroad. When she started to speak, the line went dead. They had cut it. The threat to us is permanent. The fact that the police come

to my office is a threat." When we left, the police were still at the door. One was leaning against the wall, the other across a halustrade: tall, big eyes, one of them with a moustache, both in T-shirts. They stared at us for a second, and then turned away with just enough studied nonchalance and speed to show how guilty



Algerians who have contact with human rights organisations abroad are under Photographs: O Abbas/Magnum constant threat from the security police

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9/ALGERIA'S TERROR

Witness from the front line of a police force bent on brutality

Dalilah is the first Algerian policewoman to escape from her country and tell of the torture and executions she witnessed at the hands of Algeria's intelligence services. In a flat in a London suburb, she told how she was forced to sign fake death certificates for prisoners whom she saw dying under torture.

Dalilah is used to blood. When she describes the prisoners. stripped half-naked and tied to ladders in the garage of the Cavignae police station in central Algiers, she does so with a curious detachment.

Later, when I have spent more than an hour listening to her evidence of cruelty and death, she will turn to me with a terrifying admission. "I'm being treated by a psychologist because I have bad dreams," she says. "My great passion now is to go to see horror movies - it's the only thing that interests me. I want to see blood."

to come from this attractive woman of 30 with her abundant dark black hair tied in a bunch, dandling the child of an Algerian woman friend on her knee. In your local police station, Dalilah would be a welcome member of the force. And so said: Take them to the hospishe was when she began serving at the Colonel Amirouche Street police station in 1985.

that job I originally had," she ter curfew when only the police says. "I was in the intelligence department, a police detective in the Special Branch and I'd wanted to be a policewoman to serve my people since I was 12 years old."

Dalilah was trained for nine months at the Chateauneuf Higher Police School in Algiers - her father had been a police officer - and she enjoyed playing in police sports teams as well as her work as a detective.

Things started to go wrong for her during the October 1988 demonstrations for democracy and then they went wrong again - badly wrong with the cancellation by the military-backed government of national elections that the Islamists were certain to win in 1991. Six policemen were assassinated in Algiers on 12 February 1992. Dalilah knew two of them, Elias and Mourad, hoth shot down in the casbah.

"I was moved to Cavignac police station near the post office and I hated what was happening there, what was happening to the police.

They tortured people - I saw this happening. I saw innocent young people tortured like wild animals. Yes, I myself saw the torture sessions. What could I do?

They executed people at 11 o'clock at night, people who had done nothing. They had been denounced by people who didn't get along with them. People just said 'He's a terrorist' and the man would he

like an automaton, her voice a monotone. She says she saw, over a period of months, at least 1,000 men tortured at the rate of 12 a day, the police interrogators starting at 10am and working in shifts until 11pm.

"They nied young people to a ladder with a rope. They were always shirtless, sometimes naked. They put a rag over their face. Then they forced salty water into them. There was a tap with a pipe that they stuck in the prisoner's throat and they ran the water until the prisoners' bellies had swelled right up. "When I remember it, I

think how it hurt to see a buman being like this - it's better to murder men than see them tortured like that."

Dalilah cries when she describes what she saw. "The torturers would say: 'You must confess that you killed so-andso' and they made the prisoners sign a confession with their eyes blindfolded - they didn't have the right to read what they were signing.

"There were prisoners who wept and said: 'I've done nothing - I have the right to a doctor and a lawyer. When they said that, they got a fist in the mouth. Those who died were under the water torture. Their bellies were too swollen with water. Sometimes while this happened, the torturers would put broomsticks up their anuses.

"Some of the prisoners had beards, some didn't. They were all poor. The top policemen gave the order to torture - I think it was given over the phone. But they didn't use the word torture - they used to call it nakdoulou eslah - 'guest treatment'. There would be screaming and crying from the prisoners. They would shout: 'In the name of God, I did nothing' or "We're all the same, we're It is an extraordinary remark Muslims like you'. They screamed and cried a lot."

Men broke and died under torture: "I saw two men who died like that on the ladder." Dalilah says. "The two bodies hung there on the ladder. They were dead and the torturer tal and say they died in a hattle.' They did the same thing with those who were executed "I loved the joh – I still love at 11 at night – it was done af-Ramadan in 1993. The men who



BY ROBERT **FISK**

and the gendarmerie could

"I had to fill out the death certificates so the bodies could be taken out of the hospitals. I had to sign that it was a body that had been found in the forest after it had decomposed it was very bot then."

Dalilah says that she tried to protest to a superior officer, whose name she gave as Hamid. "I said to him: 'You mustn't do these things because we are all-Muslims - there should at least be evidence against these people before you kill them.' He said to me: My girl, you are not made for the police force - if you suspect someone, you must kill him. When you kill people, that's how you get promoted'."

The torture sessions were carried out in a garage level with the ground floor at the Cavignac Dalilah talks about torture police station.

"Any cop would hit the prisoners with the butt of his Kalash (rifle). Some of the prisoners went completely mad from heing tortured. Everyone who was brought to the Cavignac was tortured - around 70 per cent of the cops there saw all this.

They participated. "Although the torture was the joh of the judiciary police, the others joined in. The prisoners would be 20 to 30 to a cell and they would be brought one by one to the ladder, kicked in the ribs all the time. It was



Line up: Over a period of months, the police tortured at least 1,000l men. Daiitah, who had to fill out the death certificates of those who died. She had to say that the bodies had been found in the forest after they had decomposed

> Photograph! O Abbas/Magnum

got a piece of hread every two days. There was no medicine. Every prisoner, according to the law, has the right to a doctor. But they would be returned to their cells covered in blood."

According to Dalilah, women prisoners were taken for torture to a special section of the Chateauneuf police station called the National Organisation for the Suppression of Criminality, where Algerian military security police prevented all but those with special asses from entering. "You had to be a high-ranking officer to get in there because of the way they treated women," Dalilah says. "They killed there too, but I don't know any more."

Dalilah's tragedy is a personal one. "I can't sleep in the dark because I'm afraid," she says. "It's not my fault hecause my fiance was murdered during did this to him were dressed as policemen - and they killed him because he was a policeman. They kill without reason."

Who are 'they', I ask? And she replies: "That's the big question.

"My friend Nacera was letting her flat to a policewoman called Hamida and she received a threat letter - apparently from armed 'Islamists' - saying: If you protect the police, you're dead.' They gave her one month (to evict Hamida). Then on 12 July 1994, they shot them both in Nacera's car in the Cité Garridi."

But it was torture that destroyed Dalilah's life - and which proved her undoing.

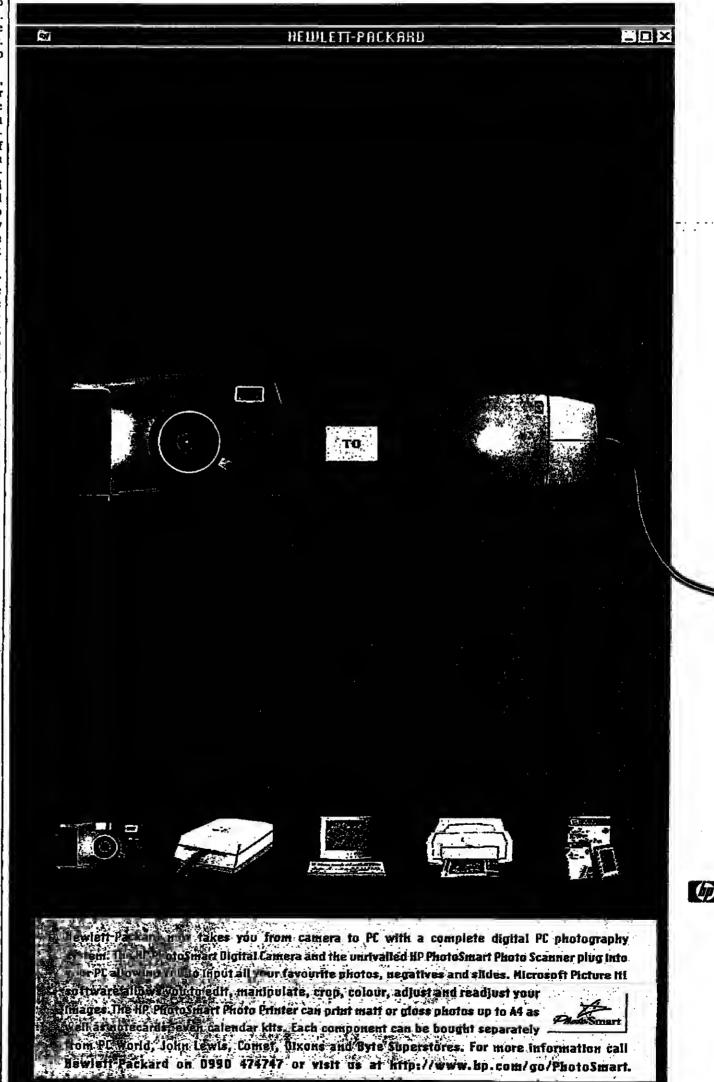
"There was a group of elderly people who were tortured," she says. "I couldn't stand to see it, especially one man of about 55 whose arm was rotting. He had gangrene and he smelled very bad. I couldn't bear it and I went and bought him some penicillin and put it on his arm because I thought it would help.

"There were another six people in his cell who had been tortured - it smelled like death in there. But another policeman had seen me and I asked him not to say anything. You see, we didn't have the right to talk to prisoners - only to hit them.

"But the policeman wrote a report to the commissioner who called me in and said my case would go to the national commissioner. He said: 'Maybe you'll go to prison for helping terrorists'. The man I helped was freed afterwards - which showed he was innocent."

Armed 'Islamists' - four young men who turned up at ber mother's home in a Golf car - rhad meanwhile targeted Dalilah, demanding she hand over her police pistol within 15

When Dalilah asked for police protection, she was told that "everyone is in the same situation". She slept in police stations at night. Then she slipped from home one night and bribed her way onto a boat for Europe, on the run from both the Algerian security forces "In the cells, the prisoners and the Islamist guerrillas."



PACKARD

Cadbury loses Swiss bar wars

The chocolate manufacturer Cadhury yesterday lost its "bar wars" legal action against the Swiss chocolate industry.

A High Court judge ruled that the British firm had been "passing off" one of its own brands as Swiss confectionery. and gave the company two months to sell existing stocks.

Mr Justice Laddie agreed with the manufacturers Suchard and Linds, and Switzerland's chocolate industry's trade association, Chocosuisse, that the British public could be fooled into thinking that Cadbury's "Swiss Chalet" bar was geneinely Swiss. The ruling means "Swiss" chocolate must mean just that - made in Switzerland.

Awarding costs of up to £1m numbers Cadbury, the judge said he had concluded "that a substantial number of members of the public who regard Swiss chocolate as the name for a group of products of repute will be confused into thinking that Swiss Chalet is a member of that group by reason of the use of

the name Swiss Chalet". The huge sums of money that Swiss chocolate firms have been prepared to spend over a modestly-sized bar of honey flavoured milk chocolate - with small pieces of almond nougat - show the importance they

attach to one of the country's key industries.

Mr Justice Laddic said: Bearing in mind all the cvidence, I have come to the conclusion that the words 'Swiss chncolate' have acquired in England a distinct reputation.

"Although it refers to chocolate which emanates from Switzerland, the plaintiffs have proved that to a significant part of the public here those words denote a group of products of distinctive reputation."

Cadbury later played down the importance of the case and said that, while surprised and disappointed to lose, the product was of negligible importance to its trade. A spnkesman added: "No one will miss it."

Swiss Chalet bars were produced "rotationally" with other variety bars such as Grand Seville and Black Forest and had not been on shop shelves since the spring, he said. The packaging included a picture of the snow-capped Matterhorn in Switzerland with a chalet in a valley below.

The ruling follows close on the heels of a vote by Euro MPs aimed at foreing British manufacturers to change the name of milk chocolate so as to reflect its vegetable fat content.



A five-ton bronze statue of Lenin being delivered to Sotheby's in West Sussex yesterday. The statue, which was erected in the Latvian town of Preili, will be auctioned next May (estimate £12,000-£18,000) Photograph: Jeff Rayner

Lorry drivers facing new French blockades

British lorry drivers are facing massive news indeed. It now looks like massive disdisruption on the Continent after pay talks between French truckers and employers broke down yesterday.

Road-blocks could paralyse much of European traffic from this weekend with truck drivers due to begin their action on Sunday night. Daniel Hodges, of the Road --- Michael Streeter Haulage Association, said: "It is very bad difficulties as speedily as possible."

ruption on Europe's roads is inevitable. This is set to be an absolute disaster for the British haulage industry, Militant French drivers are guarding blockades at ports and borders and we will be looking at massive

disruption on all France's main arteries. "We are urging all sides to resolve their

Last year's 12-day strike, when hundreds nf lorries were trapped at blockades, cost the British haulage industry £1.5m and it is feared this weekend's strike action could have even greater repercussions.

Neil Kinnock, the EU transport commissioner, has written to the French government reminding it of the EU law that it must ensure free movement of goods.

More council fraud is uncovered

The number of local government frauds detected last year rose by 25 per cent to 208,000 cases at a cost of £76m, the Audit Commission reports today. Benefit fraud alone accounted for £68m of this.

But with most fraud going undetected, the commission announced that auditors will be undertaking a special audit of 400 councils during the next 12 months to assess their arrangements for preventing and detecting housing benefit fraud.

Using computerised data matching techniques and prevention measures can have dramatic results, the commission

Concerted action by councils and the Universities and Colleges Admissions Services (UCAS) slashed student award fraud by 80 per cent, from £4.9m to £0.9m. The UCAS application screening service is used by local education authorities to check applications before students are granted an award. This identified potentially fraudulent applications valued at £2m.

Earlier this year, 300 councils took part in an experiment using computer technology to combat fraudsters, saving £15m. Data matching enabled councils to identify people who

were claiming benefits, such as housing benefit, in more than one council. In Manchester, where there are several local authorities, the amount of money saved rose by 30 per cent. Savings across London boroughs rose by 50 per cent.

The report shows that only I per cent of fraud is committed by council staff.

The commission pinpointed new areas of concern, including organised fraudsters intercepting and altering cheques. "Although the amounts involved are small (slightly more than £1m) in comparison with total expenditure by councils, there has been a sharp increase in this

type of fraud." Fraudulent payments to suppliers and contractors rose almost three-fold. These include overcharging for goods. and contractors charging for work not carried out. One subcontractor submitted almost 1,000 false invoices.

Andrew Foster, controller of the Audit Commission, said councils had done well in improving the detection of fraud, but added: "There is still a great deal to be done by local and central government. Prevention is the key."

--- Glenda Cooper. Social Affairs Correspondent

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Evans show censured for 'lewd remarks'

Chris Evans has fallen foul of sexual references on the protelevision watchdogs for the fourth time over his television Evans he had met Evans' forprogramme, TFI Friday, the mer wife, Carot McGiffin, and Broadcasting Standards Council ruled yesterday.

The American "shock-lock"

gramme, it said. Stern told planned to bring her to the studio and make love to her.

He said: "She's spruced her-Howard Stern should not have self up since she left you. I said been allowed to make lewd to her I'll make love to you on

my lap while Chris watches." The BSC said the conversation had been inappropriate for teatime viewing.

The BBC2 drama serial This Life has also been attacked by viewers for showing a graphic gay love scene but the BSC did not uphold their complaints.

DAILY POEM The Poetry of a Root Crop

by Charles Kingsley

Underneath their eider-robe Russet swede and golden globe, Feathered carrot, burrowing deep, Steadfast wait in charmed sleep; Treasure-houses wherein lie, Locked by angels' alchemy, Milk and hair, and blood, and bone, Children of the barren stone; Children of the flaming Air. With his blue eye keen and bare, Spirit-people smiling down On frozen field and toiling town. Toiling town that will not heed God His voice for rage and greed; Frozen fields that surpliced lie, Gazing patient at the sky: Like some marble carven nun. With folded hands when work is done, Who mute upon her tomb doth pray,

Till the resurrection day.

This week's poems come from the new, 800-page Penguin Book of Victorian Verse, edited by Daniel Karlin (Allen Lane/The Penguin Press, £25). Charles Kingsley, author of The Water Babies and Hereward the Wake, Christian Socialist reformer and professor of modern history at Cambridge, published his Collected Poems in 1872.

Diana burial park to open

Althorp Park, where Diana, Princess of Wales is buried, is to be opened to the public for two months next summer, the Spencer family announced yesterday.

The burial site on the island on a lake in the Northamptonshire park will be on view, but not accessible to the public.

The opening date, 1 July, coincides with the Princess's birthday and the park will remain open until 30 August. The following day, the anniversary of her death, will be preserved as a private, family day.

A spokeswoman for the Spencers said an appropriate memorial to the Princess would be situated in the park, but it had not yet been decided what it would be.

"Visitors will be invited to apply for admission in advance of the opening dates, but no applications can be considered until details are announced in the New Year."

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Progressive school baffled by inspectors' censure







Closure threat: Pupils at Summerhilli, Suffolk, opt to make their own bikes rather than attend lessons, and top right, enjoy a break or play basketball. Inspectors have told the school to raise standards or close Photograph: Brian Harris

The school that led the way in an experiment of progressive education is under threat because of poor results.

Lucy Word, Education Correspondent, went to Suffolk to visit the school and talk to pupils

because they wore suits and ties," says Oli, a 15-year-old pupil at Summerhill school. Ties mean trouble at the 76vear-old school, an experiment

by the Scottish educationalist A . S. Neill - was serious.

Unless it improved standards of literacy and numeracy among younger pupils it would be struck off the Government's register of approved independent schools and forced

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Motoring Assistance

in 12 acres of Suffolk woodland, pupils and staff are outraged and perplexed by the judgement. The inspectors, who called for a day last summer, were the latest in a long line to fail to appreciate Summerhill's educational philosophy, said Zoe Readhead, head teacher and daughter of the school's founder.

By focusing on standards at fixed ages — the tough three Rs "You could tell the inspectors yardstick by which English state promise," says Mrs Readhead. primaries are measured — they ignored Summerhill kids' propeosity to catch up with a handful of GCSEs at 16,

The fact that the greatest in progressive education where threat to the school's survival freedom means oo uniform has come under a Labour govand no lessons, if pupils choose. ernmeot is also baffling Sum-This time, the inspectors' merhill staff. Cannier state verdict — never complimenta- school teachers could probably ry since the school's foundation have warned them that David Blunkett's "zero tolerance of failure" would not stop at the Suffolk border.

With six months' grace to address inspectors' concerns, Mrs Readhead is, in true New fast as they need to." Labour style, drawing up an action plan. Some concessions have been made. The 'lounge', In the brick schoolhouse set a scruffy, wood-panelled room

where staff and children hold weekly meetings to devise the school's laws has been carpeted after health and safety concerns, though they were happy

with its original boarded floor. But some Summerhill traditions, notably the principle of keeping lessons optiooal, remain non-negotiable. "That has been central to the school since its foundation and I will close the school rather than com-

Only a vote by pupils for compulsory lessons could make her change her mind, and that scems unlikely.

James, 13, who came to the school last term, says he attends more classes now than at his Kent secondary school where he was hullied.

Busy in the workshop preparing for the school's Halloween party, he says: "Here everything is what you want it to be - everything is how you plan it. The inspectors didn't realise everybody can progress as

At 11am on a Wednesday morning kids are swinging precariously from a rope attached to the school's towering Big Beech tree, while others repair hikes from a pile of beaten up BMXs and racers.

The idea, says Oli, is to use the wheels and handlebars to customise your own machine a concept not a million miles from A. S. Neill's vision of child-led education.

In truth, though inspectors may ask, staff could not provide precise levels of attendance if they tried, since accurate register keeping is impossible when children slip in and out of lessons as they choose.

In most cases a period of "dossing about" is followed by a return to the classroom, at least until the next sunny day, and staff keep a "special attention list" for any absentees causing concern.

However, the school's action plan is likely to give ground and promise to increase monitoring of attendance and performance, despite Mrs Readhead's concerns that strength "cannot be defined by tick boxes".

Children, she says, "learn the sense of responsibility by living in a self-governing community" Old Summerhillians and

sympathisers of A.S. Neill's vision of a school where "children could develop free from fear" are rallying against the closure threat. Some of the main support-

ers come from Japan, Taiwan and Korea, the countries whose traditionalist education systems David Blunkett and Tony Blair extol. As a last resort, Mrs Read-

head has a letter left by her father to be sent to inspectors after his death in 1973 asking for understanding of Summerhill's unique character.

The letter was never posted, because Mrs Readhead could not identify an individual to blame for the criticisms made

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your face towards your nostrils.

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of the school. After the latest inspection, she is finally considering seed-



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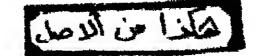
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FOR THE **FAILED** CROPS?

WHO PAYS

Who foots the bill when a transgenic croo fails? That's the question now being argued by farmers in Mississippi and by Monsanto, the agribusiness company, after thousands of hectares of genetically modified cotton crops either shed their balls or else developed small, malformed bolls.

The cotton contains a gene for resistance to Monsanto's Roundup herbicide, meaning that farmers could kill weeds in the field without worrying about it killing their crop.

But for reasons which are still unclear, 12,000 hectares of the transger plants - out of a total of 320,000 planted for the first time this year - have failed in Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee. Local reports suggest that normal cotton, without the extra gene, has not been affected. "Cotton right across the road of a different variety was not affected," Robert McCarty, director of Mississippi's Bureau of Plant Industry told New Scientist magazine.

A lawyer for Mississippi farmers says their losses could total millions of dollars, and says that Monsanto is trying to play down the problem.

But the company said only a few thousand hectares have been affected, and that malformed bolls are confined to its transgenic crop.

What can we do for you?

Superweed fear as genetic plants cross over to the wild

Genes resistant to herbicides can cross from specially engineered crops to weed species, say French scientists. It is a finding which puts a question mark over a burgeoning business. Charles Arthur. asks whether the day of he superweed is coming.

Although the French team says the chance of this process happening under normal conditions is rare, its formal finding confirms the frequently repeated complaiots of green campaigners: that commercial food growers have ignored the possible hazards involved in using scientific technologies which are relatively unproven.

The scientists, based at the National Agricultural Research Institute in Le Rheu, France, took a transgenic oilseed rape ferring resistance to glusofinate ammonium, or Basta, and crossed it with an unrelated

species, the wild radish weed. associated with this technology." erations the resistance gene became incorporated into the weeds until it could spread among non-hybrid weeds.

This experimental proof suggests that transgenic crops designed to be resistant to a particular herbicide could have

the Genetics Forum, which opposes transgenic crops. But Colin Merritt, UK tech-

nical manager of the bioindustry company Monsanto, insisted that the finding, reported today in the scientific journal Nature, will have no adverse effect on the company's use of crops genetically engineered to be resistant to its Roundup

"Roundup blocks a particular enzyme found only in particular organisms," he said plant containing a gene con- yesterday. "That means that resistance to it can't be developed directly. The benefits greatly outweigh the problems

They found that over four gen- He insisted there is no chance of a resistant "superweed"

Monsanto has attracted criticism from green and consumer groups io Europe over its supply of a transgenic soya plant to US farmers last year. The soya has a gene which is resistant to a limited useful life before their Roundup. But farmers did oot genetic advantage is passed oo separate the genetically altered crop from the normal crop This is something that we when they harvested it last auhave been worried about for a tumn - thus going against the while," said Susan Casey of express wishes of many consumers, who want foods made from or containing genetically modified components to be clearly labelled.

Julie Sheppard, of the Coosumers' Association, said: "It has been recognised for some time that you could get this sort of herbicide resistance crossing between unrelated species to give herbicide tolerance. The problem is that field trials are usually short-term and limited in size - whereas in agriculture you're planting these crops for years, over huge tracts of land. When you have a monoculture, yoo increase the risk of 'ootcrossing' of genes occurring."

Why potatoes could be the future of paint

Putting potatoes into paint is the latest brainwave to tackle giobal warming. it's not science fiction - ICl's **Dulux division has** almost got it cracked. Charles Arthur, Science Editor, explains how white can be green in the world of decorating.

Painting the walls with potatoes will soon be the province not only of unruly children, but also of sensible, environmentally aware adults. Dulux is developing a household paint which replaces up to 25 per cent of the petroleum-based chemicals now used in paints with starch, derived from crops including potatoes, wheat and maize.

Normal interior paints currently use vinyl and acrylic derived from petroleum-based chemicals: these solidify when exposed to air because they form long-chained molecules. Now chemists at ICI have found a way to replace those molecules with others from starch-based crops. Paints made this way are starts to rise, biosustainable just as hard and feel the same products could be a reasonable petroleum-based ooes.

starch component is bound into the polymerised molecules. Initially, bacteria and fungi

cannot break this down, meaning that in dry conditions the paint does not rot on the walls. But the Dulux team has dis-renewable resources such as covered a problem of lowered water resistance compared to standard paints, which they think is caused by the starch breaking down into its components - complex sugar molecules. "If you have too much free sugar in a paint, water has a field day with it," Philip Taylor, an ICI research chemist, told New Scientist magazine.

But Ray Leggetter, the UK technical manager, said yesterday that the company was "optimistic that this problem can be overcome", adding that "a move to commercialisation will take at least two years". A further problem the team

faces is producing it in any other colour than white. "We still have a lot of work to do on tinting," Mr Taylor said.

Technical hurdles apart, a decision on exactly when to start selling the paints could depend largely on the price of oil: as this

as standard paints because the alternative, despite their high er costs at present.

ICI's new paint is part of a long-standing drive by the company towards developing prodcrops and wood rather than from fossil fuels. An advantage of starch-based paints would be that they could be composted which might prove attractive to green consumers, or if new laws force companies to make more biodegradable products. Millions of gallons of unused or dried-up vinyl paints currently have to be disposed of in public dumps, where they are resistant to decay.

The development is another in the growing effort by large corporations to turn away from products and technologies based on fossil fuels, and develop replacements derived from plentiful or renewable sources.

Recently, major oil compaand yesterday US researchers announced that they have developed a system to make solid parts for cars and trucks using soya-derived plastics to replace





Just William's mutant egg gives Tonetone a pecking

The Continuing Adventures of Tonetone the Boy Prime Minister, episode 15. head. "Gosh Mowy!" he exclaims. "What on earth is that? It's got the body of a Ronetone has had a busy summer. He has saved an ancient monarchy from collapse, appointed a drugs tear to combat the evil Rastapopoulos, and worn jeans in Tuscany. His white dog, Mowy, has even saved Northern Ireland. Now they have both been called back to the House of Commons, where strange things are afoot.

Just William, chapter 7. It was, thought William, a rather fine catapult, From the first moment that he and Duncan had first seen it in the window of Mr Jenk's General Stores, William had coveted it. Through acts of quite exceptional goodness he had finally saved up the necessary amount - two shillings

POLITICAL SKETCH DAVID **ARONOVITCH**

and sixpence - to purchase the object of his attentions. Now it was his, and William was happy.

"Mowy!" says Tonctone, "Can all that applause be for us?" Mowy barks her assent joyfully. Tonetone modestly takes thud the missiles buried themselves in a bow, "Now, what's the problem?" he asks Cookulus, "We are being terrorised by a mad mutant egg!" replies Cookulus squeakily, "we expect it hack any minute!" "There must be something we can do!" exclaims Tonetone.

was one feat above all that was to be accomplished with the aid of his new catapult. As he strode into the Old Barn, hairs akimbo, it was the settling of scores with his old enemies, those appalling swots the Tony Blairites, that was uppermost in his mind.

Tonetone looks up from his seat, and sees a curious sight coming towards him. boy, but the head of an egg!" "Whoaah!" replies Mowy, excitedly.

"Billions of blue blistering barnacks!" ejaculates Captain Prescott, "it must be something spawned by that meteorite which fell into the sea off the South Pole last year, and which no expedition has yet managed to find!"

in some ways William had always nursed a secret admiration for Tony Blair. Behind the transparent honesty, and beyond the well-scrubbed neck, there was a certain ruthless deviousness and epidermal grubbiness which appealed to William. But he could not afford for sentiment to be his master now.

In front of both gangs - the Outlaws and the Blairites - he squared up to the other boy. "Jus' you jolly well watch this!" he warned, fitting a petihle to his catapult, and drawing back the clasuc.

The mutant egg approaches Tonetone, cheered on by a crowd of giant stick insects. Tonetone is about to ask whetherit comes in peace, when it jumps up and pecks him on the arm! Exclamation mark! thinks Tonetone. A pecking egg!

Even with an inferior weapon, William was no mean shot. Armed with a catapult of sterling craftmanship, and penbles of exceptional roundness and smoothness, however, the determined Outlaw could not miss. With a hearty the centre of their target, "Huh!" said William, standing back, "I'd jus' like to see you beat that!"

Tonetone is beginning to feel sorry for the egg. Five times now it has leap1 up as high as its little legs will carry it, and As far as William was concerned there noisily knocked its shell against the Boy Prime Minister. "Come on, egg!" exclaims Tonctone, "why not give up?" Spent, the mutant egg subsides. Once again Tonetone has triumphed.

The clang of stone on metal told the whole story. Tony Blair's shot had sailed far wide of the mark - William was the victor.

"Oh William!" said Violet Eliza-A huge question mark forms above his beth, "I think you're tho thexthy!"



Plenty to reveal: Michael Heseltine could drop a number of bombshells Photograph: Brian Harris

Heseltine memoirs threaten to expose Tory secrets

Michael Heseltine, the former editor of the Crossman Diaries forced to resign. Sir Leon's dedeputy prime minister, is writing and hiographer of Rah Butler, partment had leaked the confihis memoirs and Margaret another former Conservative dential advice of a government Thatcher's most lethal Tory deputy prime minister. Mr Hesopponent has a number of bombshells that he could drop on but since May he has resumed his the former prime minister, not chairmanship of Haymarket least about the Westland heli- Press, the magazine publishing copter row that could have precipitated her downfall in 1986.

with a finger in every political pie of government, Mr Heseltine pressed West Country helicopter knew all the inside secrets of the final Major years, and his mem-fully-fledged Cabinet split over raphy, will also provide the oirs could well be the first to ex- co-operation with Europe. In the pose the definitive story of the end, Mr Heseltine felt com-Tories' May election déhâcle.

That task will be made easior by the involvement of his collaborator on the book Anthony Leon Brittan, then Secretary of Howard, of the Times, who was State for Trade and Industry, was

eltine remains MP for Henley. tempt to destabilise Mr Heselcompany he built up in the 1960s,

The Westland affair started As Deputy Prime Minister, with a relatively minor problem over the fate of a financiallymanufacturer, and blew into a pelled to walk out of the Cabinet, and resign as Secretary of by John Major, and Mr Hesel-State for Defence, while Sir

law officer in a calculated attine, his Cabinet colleague, and Tory MPs were so outraged that it was necessary to sacrifice Sir Leon to calm them down. But at one critical point, Mrs Thatcher told a colleague that she might even have to resign.

Mrs Thatcher won that battle, but the Heseltine autobioginside story on his 1990 challenge to her leadership - which brought about her replacement tine's return to Cabinet.

- Anthony Bevins

Green taxes planned to curb car use

'Green taxes' to curb car use will be proposed in a **Budget consultation** paper by the Chancellor next month. Colin Brown, Chief Political Correspondent, heard John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, warn that hard choices lie ahead to save the planet.

A steep increase in duty on petrol could be included in a "green" Budget to be published by the Chancellor next month, to curh car use and meet Britain's ambitious target for reducing carbon dioxide emissions which cause global warming.

Gordon Brown committed the Government to annual rises in real terms of 6 per cent in the duty on petrol in his last Budget, but Whitehall sources said yesterday that there could be higher increases proposed in the consultation paper for implementation in the Chancellor's next Budget in the spring.

John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday warned MPs that global warming could lead to flooding of UK coasts, unless action was taken. "In the United Kingdom we could face problems, extremes of weather, new diseases, shortages of food and fresh water, flooding of our coasts," he told the cross-party Commons Select Committee on Environment, Transport and the Regions, which shadows his super-ministry.

All levels of government, business and individuals will face "difficult decisions" in

ductions, Mr Prescott said. The Chancellor's decision to publish a consultation paper on the Budget for the first time will be seen as part of the softening up exercise to persuade the public to accept the need for higher taxes to curb car use, and reduce energy consumption.

Ministerial sources have privately said that Mr Prescott's ? Department of Environment. Transport and the Regions' could become an important arm of the Treasury in raising taxes which the consumer is willing to pay. Mr Prescott told the select committee that it was feasible to deliver Britain's new tar-ode get of a 20 per cent reduction we in carbon dioxide emissions by-2010, but it would require "a major shift in resources and patterns of behaviour".

Europe is proposing a re-* duction by 15 per cent, conditional on agreement with the rest of the world at the climate change conference in Kyoto Japan, in December.

Mr Prescott, who is looking at road pricing to curb car commuting, said: "All levels of government, husinesses and individuals will need to be committed to achieving the goal; 4.5 they will also face difficult decisions, particularly in the light of the adjustment and investment costs that will be needed .'10. to achieve this level of change. There will inevitably be winners and losers."

He added that measures to tackle climate change "will con- ".... tribute to the delivery of several other government policy [objectives, such as moving to a : " transport system that is less car dependent, more efficient and meeting Britain's target for re-less environmentally damaging".





Labour acts over sleaze claims

Disciplinary action by Labour against them by the party. They against councillors in three different areas and one MP, all of whom face "sleaze" allegations, took a step forward yesterday.

The decisions made at yesterday's meeting of Labour's National Executive Committee covered three different areas: Paisley, Glasgow and Hull.

Tommy Graham, MP for Renfrewshire West, was suspended along with a Paisley councillor, Harry Revie, in the wake of allegations made in a suicide note by the Paisley South MP, Gordon McMaster.

Mr Revie was Mr Graham's campaign manager in the general election and was involved in had links with the laundering of drug money. They also faced claims of membership rigging. In Glasgow, seven councillors will have charges laid

Photograph: Rui Xavier

AT HALFORDS

are already suspended over allegations that they accepted free foreign trips at the ratepayers' expense in return for their

In a separate development Joho Black, chairman of housing in Hull, was suspended by yesterday's meeting over allegations of expenses fraud.

The drawn-out disciplinary process was exploited by nationalists in the Paisley South byelection. Three Scottish Nationalist Party councillors and one independent walked out of a Renfrewshire council committee in protest at it being chaired by Mr Revie. A Labour FCB (Security), alleged to have source said Mr Revie would be instructed to step down from the post, which carries allowances worth up to £11,000 a year.

 Fran Abrams and Stebhen Goodwin

Few willing to stand up for *Tatton One

The Commons Committee on of influencing matters. She said Standards and Privileges is in yesterday: "I felt I could only danger of perpetrating an in-reach a verdict if I had the opjustice that would, in all other circumstances, have Labour MPs asking emergency questions, signing motions, de- scenatall," Her view puts a new manding debates, and tabling backbench Bills.

But because the condemned man is Neil Hamilton, the for- judgement delivered by Sir mer Tory minister and MP for Gordon Downey, the Parlia-Tatton, few are willing to tarnish their reputations by taking up the cause of the Tatton One. 83 It took Quentin Davies, the Tory MP who publicly roasted one of his own ministers, David Willetts, and Ann Widdecombe, the former Home Office Minister who toasted Michael

ANALYSIS BY ANTHONY BEVINS

Soward over prisons policy, to dig in their heels at a meeting of the Standards and Privileges Committee this week.

Having heard a statement from Mr Hamilton, the all-party committee, chaired by Robert Sheldon, a former Labour minister, decided it would take no more evidence.

Mr Davies told The Independent that the committee was dence of one party to this alged case of hribery, Mr amilton, who has denied the charges on oath, and we are not even summoning the other party in the case, Mohamed al-Fayed, and we are to bear no other witnesses. There is clear- jected to the most thorough ly no possibility of reaching a cross-questioning. If the MPs do

fair verdict on this basis." Mr Davies will take no further part in the proceedings, when the committee reaches its verdict next week. Miss Widdecombe also wanted to hear further evidence but will cootinue to participate in the hope tice, like charity, begins at home.

Call to end cloak of secrecy

Government departments yesterday were accused of using "commercial confidentiality" as a cloak to keep informatioo

secret from the public in a report by the Freedom of Information Campaign. Its director, Maurice Frankel, called for

sweeping changes in the code on commercial confidential-

ity. He said Britain should adopt one of the principles

applied in the United States, that openness was part of the

Voters to get more choice

Voters will be able to elect national candidates on a system of

proportional representation for the first time, under a new Bill

published yesterday. Under a proposed regional list system there will be one ballot paper, allowing voters to choose either a par-

ty or an independent candidate. The controversial feature is the choice of a closed party list format, where parties select caudidates for each region. Those at the top of the list are allocated a seat, according to the oumber of votes cast.

price of firms doing business with government.

portunity myself of asking some questions, both of Hamilton and the witnesses whom I haven't slam on blindfolded justice,

The committee will reach its verdict on the basis of the mentary Commissioner for Standards, who said in July that the evidence "points compellingly to the conclusion that Mr Hamilton accepted cash payments from Mr Al-Fayed in return for lobbying services".

Sir Gordon acts as the investigating officer for the Commons committee. He believes in the guilt of the accused, but the committee has a greater duty to test Sir Gordon's case for the prosecution. The Hamilton case is not an article of soiled cloth-This is a straightforward question of justice and the committee has a responsibility to examine all the evidence.

In a previous incarnation, Sir Gordon Downey was the Comptroller and Auditor General, with all the resources of the National Audit Office behind him to investigate the inefficiency and incompetence of government. His reports used to go to the Commons Public Accounts Committee, chaired by the same Robert Sheldon. about to commit a travesty of which invariably regurgitated his justice. "We have heard the ev- conclusions. Mr Sheldon and his colleagues should now have a different, more aggressive, relationship with Sir Gordon.

For all his evident faults, Mr Hamilton faces a life sentence of disgrace and ridicule, and the case against him should be subnot do that, no one else will. Mr Hamilton is to be found guilty - and that is the verdict the committee will reach - without a fair trial, with no appeal. The next time MPs rail against injustice, they might be reminded that jus-

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ABOUT CARS & BIKES

BIKES

Tories set by-election date The Tories today will move the writ for the Beckenham by-election to be held on 20 November, the same day as the re-run election for Winchester. The by-election was caused by the resignation of Piers Merchant.

16/WORLD NEWS

Saddam expels American weapons inspectors

Iraq said yesterday it will accept the expulsion of Amer- Iraqi officials if Baghdad connot allow US citizens and aircraft to serve with

the UN inspectors overseeing the destruction of its weapons of mass destruction. Patrick

Cockburn says the surprise move opens the way for a new confrontation with the UN Security Council.

President Saddam Hussein has again opted for confrontation with the US by giving just one week for American nationals working for the UN Special Committee (Unscom) in charge of destroying Iraq's most powerful weapons to leave the country.

A statement by the ruling Revolution Command Council broadcast by Iraqi television said Iraq would also ask the UN to stop flying American reconnaissance aircraft monitoring its compliance with UN resolutions on elimination of these Iraqi oil for food which has been weapons.

The move, if it is adhered to, makes confrontation with the UN Security Council inevitable. There is no way the UN can

team, which will be forced to cease work.

Earlier, the US had warned that Iraq must obey the UN resolutions on weapon destruction. President Saddam presumably thinks he has little to lose, that the US and Britain will maintain sanctions against Iraq whatever happens, and that the Unscom team is effectively controlled by the US.

It is not clear if the Iraqi leader is flexing his muscles, or if he plans a wider confrontation. He still has a powerful army with 450,000 men and 800 to 1,000 modern T-72 tanks. If he wanted he could easily reoccupy Iraqi Kurdistan or threaten Kuwait, though both would be risky ventures.

By effectively stopping the work of the weapons inspectors who have been looking for cvidence and products of Iraq's nuclear, biological and chemical warfare programmes for six years, President Saddam opens the way for tougher sanctions. It may effect the limited sale of allowed over the last year.

Iraq also said it would no longer recognise last Friday's Security Council warning that it would impose a travel ban on

ican members of its inspection tinues to impede the UN inspectors. It would continue to co-operate with UN inspectors "in a manner respecting Iraq's sovereignty, national security and dignity", it said.

If President Saddam hopes to divide the US from its Gulf War allies this tactic is unlikely to succeed. Russia and France, both of whom want the embargo on Iraq lifted, recently warned Baghdad it must co-operate with the arms inspectors. A French Foreign Ministry spokesman said France "underlined with the utmost firmness that Iraq would expose itself to risks if it put an end to its cooperation" with Unscom".

Ever since the invasion of Kuwait in 1990 Iraq has hoped to drive wedges between the US and its allies. Controversy erupted last Friday when five Security Council members -Russia, France. China, Egypt and Kenya - abstained from the latest resolution on stopping the travel of Iraqi officials, claiming Iraq had received too little credit for progress in disarming.

As with the invasion of Iran in 1980 and Kuwait in 1990 President Saddam may have overplayed his hand, as the Gulf War coalition against which he fought remains hasically intact.



Riding high: Helmut Kohl as 'lying' Baron Munchausen - famous for his stories of incredible adventures - created by artist Klaus Staeck for an exhibition in Düsseldorf which runs until Sunday

US rolls out red carpet for Jiang

The Chinese President, Jiang to accusations that the US side Zemin, was received at the White House yesterday with full military honours at the start of the US-Chinese summit.

Two years ago, Mr Jiang had refused President Bill Clinton's offer of a "working visit" to Washington and held out for a full-dress summit. A 21-gun salute and a state banquet were his reward: symbolic acceptance of China as an equal and of Jiang Zemin as undisputed leader of China and successor of Deng Xiaoping. Each stop on Mr Jiang's eight-day US tour has been stage-managed to mirror Deng's first state visit to the US in 1972.

The public mood in America is more wary. Yesterday several thousand demonstrators gathered near the White House around effigies of the two leaders to protest against a man seen by human rights campaigners as Tiananmen Square repression cight years ago. Overnight, Tibetan protesters and sympathisers had held a candlelit vigil outside the Chinese embassy.

Mr Jiang spent two hours in informal talks with Mr Clinton on Tuesday and an additional meeting was inscrted yesterday.

The Sccrctary of State. Madeleine Albright, responding

would play down human rights and the status of Taiwan, said the talks would be "candid". "Engagement," she said, "is

not the same as endorsement." Speaking at the welcoming ceremony on the south lawn of the White House, Mr Clinton called for "closer bonds" with China, hut also made oblique references to a more open Chinese market and human rights. He spoke of the need to keep pulling down barriers and looked to "a world where people are treated with dignity, are free to express their beliefs and observe their faiths". Mr Jiang stressed China's weight in the world and his own authority, claiming to "speak for 1.2

billion people". Despite their meeting the previous evening, officially described as "very direct, personal and substantive", both the the chief beneficiary of the demeanour and statements of the two leaders yesterday did not indicate much personal rapport.

US officials appeared confident there would be an agreement on nuclear issues, with China pledging to halt exports of nuclear technology to Iran. and the US agreeing to lift its ban on exports of nuclear technology to China.

- Mary Dejevsky, Washington



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Lockerbie impasse in Libya

Munmmar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, met President Nelson Mandela yesterday and reiterated his refusal to extradite two Libyans sought by the West for the 1988 airliner bombing

over Lockerbie. Scotland. The South African President, visiting Libya for the second time in a week, advised Colonel Gaddafi to support the United Nations in its efforts to "reduce tension, conflict and violence". "It is important to understand the importance of moderate language," Mr Man-

dela said in a brief speech in a that Libya hand its sons to the sports stadium in the coastal town of Zuwarah.

Mr Mandela, who received a 21-gun salute and a noisy welcome from several thousand tribesmen and soldiers, did not specifically mention Lockerbie. A puzzled-looking Colonel Gaddafi said he accepted the advice, hnt at a news conference after the president's departure, he emphasised that he would not change his stand. "Mandela's advice was clear, he calls for joint efforts for peace," he said, "But

United States or Britain, this ...

is a ridiculous demand," Mr Mandela left Zuwarah after awarding Colonel Gaddafi the Order of Good Hope, the highest South African honour a foreigner can be awarded.

The South African President, who attended the Commonwealth summit which ended in Edinburgh on Monday, has repeatedly denied that he is seeking to mediate in the Lockerbie affair.

- Reuters, Zuwarah

Body hunt in priest's house

Officials yesterday began emptying a second run-down house belonging to a Hungarian preacher suspected of killing six members of his family.

Specialised gear has shown suspect cavities in the houses belonging to Andras Pandy, 70; he denies murder charges in connection with the disappearance of two of his ex-wives and four of his eight children.

Human remains, including three kneecaps, were found at the weekend in another Pandy property. Police also searched a house Pandy owned near Budanest, where they discovered an urn with ashes, and pieces of unspecified flesh in two fridges. - AP, Brussels

Ivory poaching on increase

Elephant-poaching has increased since an environmental trade body signalled a loosening of the ivory ban this year, the International Fund for Animal

Welfare said yesterday. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) decided in June that Botswana, Namihia and Zimhabwe could study how to sell ivory stockpiles to Japan only. But David Barritt, of the IFAW, said poaching has since increased in Zambia. Kenya, Central African Republic, Ghana and Congo.

- AP, Port Elizabeth

Students test Serbian police

Under the sharp eye of Serbian riot police, 10,000 ethnic Albanian students held a peaceful protest yesterday to dramatise their demand to return to Pristina University, Kosovo.

It was their first demonstration since not police violently hroke up their protest on 1 October, injuring and arresting dozens of students.

Students have been boycotting the university for six years, objecting to the state-imposed curriculum which they say infringes the cultural autonomy

ethnic Albanians demand. "We are requesting what other European universities enjoy," said Albin Kurti, a student leader. — AP, Pristina





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Italy struggles to shake off the legacy of Mussolini

Seventy-five years ago, Benito Mussolini launched his March on Rome and seized power. His Fascist revolution lasted more than two decades but proved so traumatic and divisive that even now Italy has not properly come to terms with its legacy.

Our correspondent reports on the taboos, the selective amnesia and the continuing ideological battles over

A few years ago, an architecture student called Silvia Fadda presented a hrilliant undergraduate thesis at Flurence University. Her subject was town planning during the Fascist period. Normally, her examiners explained, she would have been awarded full marks cum laude. But one thing had bothered them: nowhere did she specifically distance herself from Fascism as a political

Asked to do so at her viva, she pointed out that her thesis was not ahout politics but attempted to be an objective architectural assessment of a 1930s town in Sardinia.

The chairman of the examining panel shook his head. "It's too early for a thesis of that kind," he remarked. She did not

The Fascist period still frightens and divides Italy in strange, remarkable ways. It may be more than half a century since the end of the war, but historians, politicians, academics and newspaper columnists look back on Fascism with tremena dous apprehension, ideological posturing and only a modicum of cool historical analysis.

The heirs of the anti-Fascist resistance - the left-wingers and Christian Democrats who founded the modern republic are afraid to talk about Mussolini in any tone other than unqualified condemnation. Those who try to discuss the "good" asects of the period are quickly tarnished as apologists and neo-

Fascists, which they usually are, No truly objective account of Fascism has been written by an Italian. This week's anniversary of the March on Rome was hooligans. For a country that seems so much at case with its own identity, in stark contrast to Germany. Italy certainly has a lot of difficult haggage to sort

Much of the difficulty can be explained by the way in which Fascism disintegrated. For the last two years of the war, Italy was hitterly divided between the Allied-backed Partisans and adherents of the so-called Salo Republic, the Fascist puppet state controlled by Nazi Germany. The new Italy that



Dressed to kill: Black-shirted Fascists cheering Mussolini's appointment as Italian Prime Minister in front of the royal palace and (right) Mussolini leading a demonstration in the capital in 1922, the year of the March on Rome in which the Fascist movement finally seized power Photographs: Topham

the war was founded on an ideology of anti-fascism that troops in the area around soon permeated its way throughnut Italian society.

This has ensured that the most despicable episodes of the Fascist period - the destruction of democracy, the murder of the Socialist deputy Giacomo Matteotti, the reckless selves and their families as colonial adventures in Ethiopia, the racial laws inspired by littler and the persecution of the Jews, the invasions of Albania and Greece, and so on - have remained fresh in the public ical impasse. Mr Violante's pre-

BY ANDREW GUMBEL

proper debate on the evolution of Italian society in a period that saw industrialisation, urban development and growing independence from the stifling influence of the Catholic Church.

And it has painted an abroundly ignored by all except a surdly hlack-and-white picture small clutch of blackshirted of the final stages of the war, with the Partisans depicted as unamhiguous goodies and the Salo Republicans as little more than suhhuman vermin.

There has been some rogress in recent years, particularly since the end of the Cold War and the hreak-up of the postwar Christian Democrat-led political order in the early 1990s. The PDS, heirs to the old Italian Communist Farty, has for the first time admitted some of the more shameful aspects of the Partisan movement, particularly its compliccivilians by Titn's Yugoslav documents from the period ed in Italy as the only truly ob-Trieste in 1945. When the present centre-left government are often hard to make.

took office, the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, Luciano Violante, made an impressive speech, saying it was time for Italians to stop viewing them-

1943-45 civil war. But on the bulk of Mussolini's years in power, no way has been found out of the ideologdecessor as speaker, Irene Pivetti, provoked a torrent of invective in 1994 when she talked in public about the benefits Fascism had brought to

either winners or losers in the

The mainstream press republished every paragraph of Mussolini's distinctly anti-feminist legislation on working But it has also obliterated rights for women, but did not begin to discuss how Fascism go women out of the home and the miserable black clothes encouraged by the Catholic Church, offering them their first ever opportunities to play sport and participate in public

life, albeit in restricted ways. Similarly, there has been little nuanced discussion of Fascism's architectural legacy, or hig public works projects such as the extension of the railway network or the draining of the Pontine marshes outside Rome.

It is rare, indeed, for an Italian to admit that, for all its horrors, Fascism did much to drag Italy into the modern world. The fact that Fascism was popular for the first 15 years is usually a matter of deep embarrassment, not an issue to

be discussed and reflected on. Part of the problem for Italhave been destroyed or lost, so jective accounts it has of its own truly dispassionate judgements

But present ideologies still Mack Smith, the Oxford historian whose books are venerat- baggage.

past, was once told that he at objectivity over the Fascist would never have been given a ioh in Italy because the univerhold tremendous sway. Denis sity system would have been too scared of his lack of ideological

credited with at least an attempt period, Renzo De Felice, who died last year, spent three decades putting together a vast biography of Mussolini - more than 7.000 pages. De Felice was

Just one Italian historian is far from ideologically pure; the left-wing academic establishment tried to denigrate him for his right-wing views. But he won respect for his dogged pursuit of factual evidence and his willingness to discuss issues down to the tinjest detail.

The result, however, is a body of work that is so convoluted that it is almost unreadable - an irony that is perhaps no accident.

Italy hasn't come to grips with Fascism in 75 years, and is unlikely to for a long time.

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emerged from the wreckage of ity in the massacre of Italian ian historians is technical: many Swiss fail to dispel doubts

over Holocaust cash hoard

Swiss banks yesterday released a second list of over 14,000 dormant accounts from before 1945, this time purged of names possibly belonging to Nazi war criminals. Rupert Cornwell says even this move will not quell suspicions that Switzerland has yet to come fully clean over the former assets of Holocaust victims.

The second batch, far more comprehensive than the initial list of 1,872 foreign names reforeign and 10,800 Swiss names, starting with Aboundio and ending with Zygmunt-Haeflinger. Most striking of all, however, is how little money has been unearthed.

If the Swiss Bankers Association (SBA) is to be believed, the total sum held in the

14,500 accounts was an almost derisory 18m Swiss francs (\$12.5m), bringing the grand total held in pre-1945 dorimant accounts revealed thus far to around SFr80m (\$55m) - a far cry from the \$7bn which some Jewish groups claimed was being deliberately hoarded by

the major Swiss banks. Releasing the list on the Internet (http://www.dormant accounts, ch) and in banks across Switzerland, the association said only 3 per cent of the accounts contained more than 1,000 francs (\$690), and insisted that the "vast majority" of dormant assets from before 1945 had now been identified.

But the latest disclosures may not quell the controverleased in July, consists of 3.700 sy, nor even head off fresh sanctions and boycotts threatening them in the US. Simultaneously, Jean Ziegler, the Swiss deputy and unrelenting critic of Swiss banking habits. said the step was merely an exercise in hypocrisy. "The real question is what happened to disappeared here in the 1940s and 1950s," he declared.

Some light may be thrown on that question - and on the hroader issue of what happened to the private fortunes amassed by the élite of the Third Reich - by the conference on Nazi gold which is to be held in London later this year. In the meantime, however, the Swiss banks are increasingly frustrated and irritated at how little appreciation they have gained for their efforts to find and return the contents of Holocaust accounts to their rightful owners. and for their co-operation with Jewish advocacy groups.

According to SBA officials, the banks removed "hundreds" of names of possible Nazi war criminals from the lists after cross-checking with records held by the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles. This follows the emharrassment of July's first list, when the names of several leading Nazis appeared alongthe billions of Swiss francs that side those of their victims.

She wouldn't be seen dead with the Spice Girls

She's virtually perfect; a pneumatic babe whose girlpower is Uzi-shaped. But if she's your ideal worman, says Ann Treneman, you really ought to get out more often.

Lara Croft is the ultimate mystery woman. She doesn't give interviews and evidently has trouble even bolding a conversation. They say this is because she is a computer game character - the star of the phenomenally successful Tomh Raider -and her sole purpose is to run around the small screen killing baddies and rescuing archaeological treasure. Oh sure! And Mickey Mouse is just another rodent in red shorts.

Lara Croft may have started off small and virtual but now she is a larger-than-life sex goddess, even to people who have never played the game. Her boobs alone (oot to mention together) have inspired copies and Tomh Raider II could do up to twice that. Not thousands of slobbering Internet comments and when they tire of that there is always her bum. Over the past months she's been feted on the cover of The Face and condemned by a university lecturer as a sexist influence on the young. This week she is named in a "cutting cdge "survey in Sclect magazine

as one of the 100 most important people in popular culture - and she can only get bigger. Tomb Raider II is released on 21 November and the marketing hype has begun.

So who is this woman in virtual hot pants, T-shirt and thighstrapped pistols? Lara, daughter of Lord and Lady Henshingly Croft, was raised an aristocrat and was all set to marry the Earl of Farringdon when disaster struck in the form of a plane crash over the Himalayas. Her parents die (instantly, natch) and Lara spends the next two weeks battling to stay alive. Over the next few years she becomes an expert on ancient civilisations, specialising in major archaeological finds. "Of course," says Susie Hamilton, publicist for Core Design, Tomh Raider was her lucky break. The game, involving winding and wading through caves and pools in search of lost treasure, has sold two million

has been whispered that Lara's appeal may lie elsewhere. "Lara's popularity comes down to two words. And the second one is 'jugs'," says Stuart Campbell of games magazine Edge. I say to Susie that Lara

many archaeology types can

boast of such popularity and it

does seem to be rather, well, top heavy. "Well, she really began as a male fantasy," says Susie.

It was Toby Gard, then a 21year-old computer artist at Core, who came up with the idea of having a female character in the company's fledgling pyramid game.

He has said the bustline was a slip of the mouse. "I wanted to expand them 50 per cent and then - whoops, 150 per cent. Darn." But the original drawings that hang on the walls at Core Design show that she remains pretty much as conceived. Jeremy says cartoons are always out of proportion. "See her head is big too," he notes. Strangely, though, but none of the 30-odd dedicated Lara Croft websites have much to say about her head size.

But many do pant over the prospect that there is a secret room in the game in which Lara is naked. This is not so but many "Nude Raider" sites have gone ahead and stripped her anyway.

This sort of thing alarms Dr Ken Parsons, a sociology lecturer at the Manchester Metropolitan University who studied the computer game habits of 61 teenagers. He says we should be worried both about the propensity for children to get hooked on playing such games as well as their content. "Lara Croft is a gunwielding, baddie-blasting sex symbol whose large breasts are designed to be out of proportion to the rest of her body," he says. There is a real danger that these images will be taken on board." He believes Tomb Raider links female sexuality and violence. "If we have any morals, we should be coocerned," he says.

The folks at Core are happily unconcerned. "It's pathetic. Why don't they go and study something else?" says Jeremy. think there are far worse things on TV and in cartoons." Here, in deepest Derby, Lara is among friends and they are convinced players identify with her because she is female. "There's no doubt that Lara is as tough

"I've got four daughters and I as old boots hut she's still got thing about her that makes it can ta people want to look after her. games. I watch as Heather Gib-When you are controlling her son - one of the seven-strong harpoon gun or grenade and ronowing ner around, you really feel for her. You really do - plays the new game for 10 - plays the new game f really rection der. Tou really do not want her to die," says Susie.

- plays die new game for its realiner as old neronie is named by sharks. Lara's sole time," he says. He's given her about on the Internet.

But die she must, and reguations seven times. This deence. There is some- larly, in the weeks and months spite making constant trips to to play through the the armoury to select her girlie

Toby Gard has left Core Design and 23-year-old Stuart Atkinson oow animates Lara. "Twe curved her up a hit. There

two new outlits - cut-off welsuit and flying jacket - and says it is inconceivable that Lara would ever appear naked. "Besides, if we did do her naked. theo she would just be a wire frame," says Heather.

Stuart finds it bizarre that people think Lara is real. "It's weird. They ask me things like 'Do you get along with her?' ! mean, she is not real! Susie Hamilton also complains. "Lara can be a real pain in the ass hecause people treat her like she is a real person. They ask questions like What's her favourite band?' and 'What does she do in her spare time?' I mean, why do they want to know this? Can't they make it up for them-

And yet, And yet, It seems to me that Susie also sometimes refers to Lara as if she were real. As does almost everyooe else. Lara is, after all, a fantasy and she can be whatever you want her to be. The team sees ber as one of them -young, independent, modern. She has girlpower, they say, but not the official variety. "She wouldo't be seen dead with the Spice Girls," says Heather, "She's not selling sex. She's just out to raid tombs I'm afraid."

"What we don't do is sell Lara out," says Jeremy. "We could have hranded her clothing a thousand times but we haveo't. They say that Lara should do a single. But Lara Croft is not a pop singer. They've wanted Lara to go on to chat shows. But she cannot because she doesn't exist!"

But just as real life celebrities must go virtual these days, so virtual celebrities must go real Hollywood seems the oext logical step. "We are currectly having discussions with movie companies in the States." says Jeremy. "That is going to be the fuo ooe. Once she hits the big screen, Lara exists. She is going to have a character, a personality and she's going to speak. So she is oo looger just in people's minds. That's when she launcher? "Dead again!" says are more polygons. And she's comes alive." And that will



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Why are my boyfriend's parents refusing to meet me?

VIRGINIA IRONSIDE



Army's been going out with John for two years but his mother and stepfather have refused to meet her except for once - a cold handshake. Amy's parents like him, and she gets on with his brothers and sisters and can't think of a reason except that she's from a working-class background. Why is John's mother like this and what can Amy do?

No one can hate anyone without meeting them, and a cold handshake isn't grounds for dislike. So, before Amy gets carried away and takes all this too personally, perhaps she should reassess the whole situation.

Is it really John's parents who refuse to meet her - or does John himself play a more sinister role in it all? She says she's barred from Christmasses and weddings, but why hasn't John put his foot down and said that unless she's invited he won't come himself? It sounds as if John has great uncertainties about the relationship and doesn't want Amy to meet his parents until he's really sure himself. Being asked home to meet mum is quite a big deal in any relationship - indeed, it's a very committing move and sometimes is even a di-

rect precursor to getting engaged. Amy has no idea of the history of all this. either. Perhaps John's last girlfriend was a walking nightmare and his parents can't stand the idea of meeting any more. Perhaps John's last girlfriend was a complete saint and their loyalties are still with her, the girl they feel he really ought to have married. Or perhaps John's mum is extremely possessive about her little boy and has a real block about meeting anyone he's involved with because it makes her fear that she will lose him.

As for class. Every class has its own ridiculous prejudices and it's quite possible if Amy herself were to go out with a hippy gypsy, her own parents might find it pretty difficult to accept him. Even I, n middle-class liberal, have my own prejudices about certain types of people. If my son were to hring home a prostitute and announce he was in love (or even,

come to that, a Tory councillor) I would have quite a lot of trouble trying to find the inner diamond, so prejudiced would I be about the outer shell. I agree, a working class student sounds pretty tame, but if John's parents have been indoctrinated with class prejudice from an early age it's not so easy for them to break the habits of a lifetime even if we all agree that they should do their dammedest.

Since they have reached an impasse, could Amy not make the first move and invite them both over for dinner, using the old trick of "come any day during November" so they can't wriggle out of it on the grounds they are busy?

In the letter she could say how much she'd like to meet them and what nice things she's heard about them from John. At least she would get some response and, even if they refuse, an invitation and a few flattering remarks can do nothing but start to melt their

By doing this, she would also be testing out her boyfriend's reaction. If he were strongly against the idea, she'd know that he was more involved in this stand-off than he admits. If he were game, then maybe he might add his signature to the invitation as well. His parents would find it far harder to refuse a joint in-

vitation than one from Amy alone. Amy needs to get herself out of a passive, victim-like role and seize a hit of power for herself by using her own initiative. She may be a student and much younger than John's parents, but she's no longer a child and it sounds as if she is far more mature than both John's mother and step-father put together.

WHAT READERS SAY

Don't wait for your boyfriend to ditch you

Seven years ago I met a man from a completely different social background to mine. He was an old Etonian with old money, and I was (and still am) a working class woman with a regional accent.

We got on fine and fell in love. But then it became ohvious that a grading system operated within the relationship I was taken on B-list functions such as minor receptions and country dinner parties, but not A-list functions such as Ascot, town dinner parties and embassy receptions.

When, inevitably, he ditched me for someone else (he met he her at an A-list reception) I was devastated and completely fell apart, blaming myself for being so 'gauche' and losing my confidence and

I realise now, nearly four years on, how ridiculous I was, complying with a snobbish man who clearly didn't deserve

Don't wait for John to ditch

you in favour of a girl who his mother approves of, go out and get a life now! Bridget Syms

It's important that your boyfriend stands by you I faced a similar problem with my boyfriend's parents and dreaded meeting them because of the different class backgrounds, being a single

parent and eight years older! They had already voiced their concerns before meeting me, so I was lucky in that I knew what to expect. Fortunately, because I had the full support of my boyfriend, the meeting went well and we're

now engaged to be married. If your relationship is going to survive, it is important for your boyfriend to be honest and open with you, and that he stands hy you and tells his parents that they risk losing him if they do oot make an effort meeting you.

Perhaps, as you get oo well with his hrothers and sisters. you could ask one of them if they have ever experienced

suspect, because you come from a working class background, then his parents aren't even worth bothering with and you should just continue getting oo with the rest of your life and not give them a second thought.

similar problems. If it is, as you

They, including your boyfrieod (by the sounds of it) have the problem, not you. Gloria Wood,

- Park 🐴

Your boyfriend's mother has to let her son go

Mothers start off being the most important woman in their son's life, and they like to stay that way. It is probahly nothing more than jealousy that is stopping John's mother from heing more friendly. She is just trying to protect her baby.

I'm more worried about John's behaviour. By still playing Mummy's boy he's colluding with his mother's bad behaviour. Christopher Fox

NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA

My best friend has got I've since heard he Letters are welcome, dent', 1 Canada very excited, because has told a male friend she went out with a of his that he thought new man the other it was all very funny night and when they and that he was were both drunk she slept with him.

dragged to bed by her. She's practically interest in her at all,

Clearly he has no making marriage and just used her. Should I tell her what

and everyone who has a suggestion quoted will London E145DL (fax Interflora

Send personal experiences or comments to me at the following address:

ment, 'The Indepen- know.

Square, Canary Wharf. be sent a bouquet from 0171-293 2182), to arrive by next Tuesday

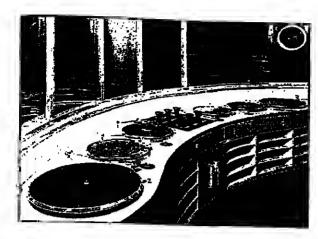
morning at the latest. If you have any dilemma of your own that you would like to Features Depart- share, please let me

plans and can't wait for him to ring, but 1 know? Iris

علذا من الاصل

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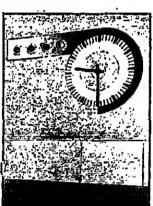
Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Broadcasting House



As part of its 75th anniversary celebrations the BBC invites the public to Portland Place to enjoy the 'BBC Experience'. Shame about the name, but there's no shame about the building. Nonie Niesewand is your guide

Broadcasting House first hove into view in 1932, stern end Jooming from the peninsula behind All Souls Church in Portland Place. The board of governors climbed the scaffolding to inspect Ariel, Eric Gill's sprightly sculpture accompanying Prospero above the main entrance. Having pronounced him "uncommonly well hung", they commanded that inches he trimmed. The model for Ariel, actor Lesley French, now in his seventies, admits in next Friday night's One Foot in the Past, "I could strip off in those days hut I wouldn't bother now."

The BBC commissioned the sculptures as a visual pun on perials, as well as liking the oonon of a free spirit to be liberated by Prospero, but Gill was not impressed, writing to his



brother Cecil: "Comic, though, the BBC kidding itself that it may he likened to a prince putting the world to rights and its bally apparatus likened to a sort of heavenly spire."

In truth, the building commissioned from Lieutenant

Colonel Val Meyer - who never built anything else and whose obituary described him as a flower painter - was never popular with anyone other than the architectural press. Predictably, there was a compromise between affirming the new technology and maintaining relations with its Adam neighbours. Rules about blocking their light meant that a mansard roof pinched in from the sixth floor. The studios are in a brick core ringed acoustically by the offices and services. Eight storeys high, with three storeys below ground, the building was hailed by Architectural Review to 1932 as "something more than a mere block of offices enclosing a sound factory. Like the Tower of London itself, it becomes a national monument."

hrate in the new building. The world's first purpose-huilt broadcasting house; the fastest lifts in London; an organ wired for sound; air-conditioned offices for 700. Too bad about the Bakerloo line rumbling beneath and the fact that the concert hall was too small for the 132-piece orchestra and acoustically sound for only 30

Reith, the Director General. complained about the light, and criticised the small size of the window panes. An entry in Pevsner endorses this reservation: "A specially unfortunate Georgian shape. They make the grimness of the sheer stone walls twice as painful." Unfair, as anyone looking at the building now lit up again at night after the Queen's inauguration can appreciate.

with hexagonal lozenge-shaped

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There was plenty to cele-

windows and stairs like some--40 players. Even before it opened Lord

Second World War. But the interiors were giv-

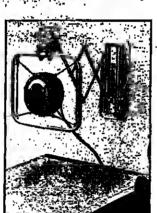
en rave reviews. A 28-year-old Australian called Raymond McGrath who designed a club, the Finella, at Caius College in Cambridge, landed the commission to design everything from the clock outside every studio to the wall-mounted ashtrays. Wedge-shaped doors

thing out of a Busby Berkeley musical are his speciality together with the backlit ziggurats and Grecian key patterns in the foyer. He slinkily fitted with chrome and leather the Vaudeville studio in the basement which became the War Control Room after it was moved from the top floor at the start of the

All the studios were themed to make hroadcasters feel at gramophone studios like records, Serge Chermayeff put a spin on the orchestra set, the God-slot was recorded in a studio done up like a church by Edward Maufe which so attracted speakers that French lessons were also conducted there. Chat shows either took place in a customised oakpanelled library or in cosy little sitting rooms with striped rugs and three-piece suites, very Brave New World (which Aldous Huxley published in the

same year). Even the acerbic architecture critic Robert Byron ap-

outside each studio designed by Raymond McGrath, and an original wall-mounted microphone proved the interior: "How well that fruit will bear the test of time, and changing fashions remains to be seen, but very well is the probable answer." He was wrong. Little remains of Mc-Grath's original interiors except



the entrance hall, clocks, and the door furniture. Chermayeff's orchestra set remains as the theatre for drama, but as microphones downsized and control consoles for each studio became necessary, the interiors changed.

gineers hadn't replaced a 500lb delayed-action time bomb

Are you sitting comfortably? The world's first purpose-built hroadcasting house was designed in 1932 by

Lieutenant Colonel Val Meyer, better known for his flower paintings; each studio had a theme, the Well

Coates' gramophone studios (top left), for example, were rounded like records; below, inset: the clock

wiped out during the war. There were other domestically induced disasters: the architect Val Meyer and designer Ray McGrath could oever agree about the Council Chamber where the board of governors still meets on the third floor. Neither got the upper hand so neither scheme prevailed. That indifference eant the room is trozen in time with its panelling and high windows and the august portraits of previous Director Generals frozen on the walls. Meanwhile the studios are impersonal cells, with banks of equipment in adjoining booths

rience" can make their own programmes; cut Desert Island Discs with Sue Lawley on CD-Rom, bang coconuts together for horses' hooves in a scripted Western or push corks out of hicycle pumps to simulate champagne. You can script a five-minute saga with

beyond the viewing panel.

By the Forties, what the enthe Archers, record your own commentary over a screened tennis match, the Grand National, golf or snooker, play weather forecaster with maps of the British Isles showing icecream cones raining down. sound-mix music, or hit the Website for Radio 1. You can learn how play a tune using your teeth and a lead pencil. And marvel at the miniaturisation which makes TV cam-

> stumps and snooker pockets. But Damon Albarn of Blur has the most ringing words. "If it wasn't for Radio 1, let's face it, there would be no Britpop." It doesn't bear thinking about, Damon.

> eras so small they fit inside

Beeleaters neimels, cricket

Visitors to "the BBC expe-. The BBC Experience opens seven days a week, 9.30am-5.30pm. Tickets cost £5.75 for adults, £4 for children and £4.35 concessions. Booking: 0870 603 0304.

> 'One Foot in Broadcasting House', presented by Patrick Wright, will be screened on BBC 2 on Friday: 7 November, at 8pm.

The new Battle of Trafalgar

Parliament Square, Trafalgar Square world-class spaces, world-class snarf-ups. Westminster Council has a cunning plan.

London's great squares are tragically clogged. Most of them have become little more than gigantic traffic roundabouts. Unlike tramcars and railways - which promote the centrality of the city - the car, with its awkward need for parking space and tendency to jam up streets, contributes to making city life noisy, polluted and congested. The concern for London's town planners, as it is in inner cities the world over, is to accommodate human beings as well as vehicular traffic.

"World Squares For All" is Westminster Council's attempt to create spatial unity and keep traffic and tourists going with the flow in London. They have commissioned a master plan from Norman Foster and Associates to find new ways nf coping with Trafalgar Square, Parliament Square, Whitehall, Westminster Abbey and the Palace of Westminster.

The project's name -World Squares for All - has the global reach of a Smersh plot. But then as Westminster Council says, the study area constitutes the heart of Government in the United Kingdom besides being one of nuly two World Heritage sites in London. They say that "urban design in the public realm must reflect the international importance of the existing historic townscape and he designed to complement and enhance

existing street furniture". This masterplan study costs £250,000. Half has been provided by the study partners (English Heritage, London Transport, the Royal Parks, the Traffic Director for London, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport) and the private sector, with £125,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Norman Foster and Partners were given the brief last November. They were going to present their ideas this summer but the traffic implications hmught them nearly to a

standstill. Now the study will be completed in March next

Meanwhile the public is invited to give their opinion of the first stage. There are four concepts that seek to improve the study area, backed up by weighty background information on traffic and pedestrian movement. The opinions of areausers have been canvassed, and historical research on the area has been as painstakingly compiled as any forensic scientist's.

Special attention has been paid to sight lines, visual focal points, disabled users, reduced journey times for London Transport buses, pedestrian and cyclist ways, traffic flow for the Houses of Parliament, and "to take note of taxis". Pedestrianising Trafalgar Square could cause jams along the A40, let alone road rage in Marylebone so don't wait for an ear-bashing from your cab driver before finding out how they plan to reduce the impact on the rest of the city.

One of the constraints about town planning in the 21st century is the idea that a quarter-mile is the maximum distance that the average person will walk to get somewhere on a routine basis. Beyond the quarter mile, people either seek a form of transport or don't buther going. The uther constraint is the number of tourists.

Peculiar to the three squares area are access to popular schools, Parliament and the State ceremonial processions, Scotland Yard and the role that Trafalgar Square has taken as a centrifugal force in traffic direction. Like a robot, it has controlled traffic in all directions. The study offers the opportunity to review how the conflicting pressures of traffic and visitors can be resolved with the need to improve the quality of the spaces and provide good public transport access. Now these world squares are to be returned to the public realm as places of beauty and repose.

World Squares for All is on show to the public November 6-8, 8am-8pm at the Royal United Service Institute in Whitehall, London SWL

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Television - a force for good in our nation's prisons



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Prison, eh? Nice cosy beds, good food, gyms, libraries ... More like Butlins than a punishment. It'll be colour TV next you mark my word. Prison? Pah.

And, as we report this morning, it almost certainly will be colour televisions next. The right-wing tabloids will be in full cry, no doubt, as will some backbenchers. Michael Howard will lose no opportunity to remind us that he rejected the idea, and to mock Jack "tough on crime" Straw for his wet liberalism in this regard.

Nor will the reaction be confined to politicians and editorialists. The verb "to cosser" will be vigorously conjugated in the snug bars and Happy Eaters of the nation. Many people will be genuinely outraged at the easy time thuggish and amoral prisoners seem to have in British jails. There will be half-jocular references to the advantages of Islamic justice and US chaingangs. This is what the ire-for-hire commentators will say, and millions of decent, ordinary people will agree. So, too,

no doubt, will many indecent and extraordinary people. It is a fundamental social trait to want to see the guilty suffer. All cultures provide for punishment and we are a very rare example in human history of a cutture which doesn't kill at least some of its criminals. Here, and now, the institute for retribution means support for tough and unpleasant prison conditions.
If they are not to hang, or go hungry, then they should at least squirm a little - be bored and uncomfortable, not leasured and

We are as vindictive as anyone else, But we also think it would be mad for Mr Straw not to proceed with the proposal to unleash the BBC and commercial TV companies on the prisoo population. It is the right thing pragmatically and in principle

Why? First, because of what British prisons are like. In the main, they are grossly overcrowded, very uncomfortable already and constant hives of crimebehind-bars. Men who are left with nothing to do, many of them being illiterate, currently amuse themselves with drugs, sex, constant little vendettas and a little light violence. Because of overcrowding, they spend more and more time in their cells. Is "Have We Got News for You", or "Casualty" or "Brookside" really a worse alternative than cannabis and recreational buggery? Furthermore, increasingly, television means communication with the rest of us, albeit one-way communication. For the modern citizen, TV is the ubionitous window on society, a prime source of thinking and information. It shapes us. Now, granted, prisoners are physically cut off from society. But that is as much for our safety as for their punishment. Assuming that we hold to the idea of rehabilitation and the return of prisoners to ordinary life after their sentences, then cutting them off from social trends, thinking,

entertainment and news is pointless, even

stupid. Prisoners who watch television for

hours are not only likelier to be easier to guard and oversee; they are also likely to end up more like the rest of us.

The second reason we approve of televisions in jails is that immates would not be given them free, but would have to pay for the privilege, using money earned inside fail. TVs would be removed for bad behaviour. Prison is such a bizarre and alienating environment that anything which keeps immates in touch with ordinary life is useful; earning and paying is useful because it increases, however marginally, responsibility. It is what prisoners will quickly have to learn to do outside.

- This is, in short, a proposal which is sensible in security terms, mildly rehabilita-tive and - yes - humane. We don't see how driving people mad with boredom is going to make them better on release.

So this is neither inherently "liberal" or conservative", merely sensible. It is on all fours with other important recent proposals from the Home Office, such as the

decision to extend the scheme wherehy young villains are brought face to face with their victims. The Home Secretary needs to bust the old thinking on penal policy which makes all of us either little Michael Howards or little Lord Longfords. And indeed, the early evidence is that Mr Straw is a rather more flexible and lateral-thinking Home Secretary than his image

suggests.

He is tough, no doubt. But toughness does not consist in asking oneself what the right-wing press would like you to do, and then eagerly doing it -- as some Tory home secretaries did. Tough means doing the right thing - and then winning the public around. Whether the issue is scotencing. tagging, "came and shaming" or prison conditions, we hope that Mr Straw will ask himself constantly one simple question -Will this make the public safer or not? and let the rest go hang. Or, in this day and age, go watch telly in a small and air-

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number Fux 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Leuers may be edited for length and clarity.

LETTERS

Britain and EMU

Sir: If only life was as easy as Andrew Marr makes it seem ("Tony and Gordon cast their magic spell over the Emu debate", 29 October). The Chancellor's statement did settle ooe question and that is of the timing of any referendum but it did so in a negative way by ruling it out during this Parliament. This leaves both an economic and a political questioo open.

Of the Chancellor's five "tests," only one is quantifiable and that concerns the criteria for cyclical convergence. What the Chancellor needs to clarify is the measures he inteods to use to satisfy himself that the UK economy is "in cyne" with those of the euro members. Will the Treasury use short-term or long-term interest rates, real or nominal, alone or with some measure of output gap to arrive at their judgement about convergeoce? Ambiguity oo these matters is undesirable.

The Chancellor's statement presumes a Labour victory at tainly hone will come about. But the experience of Labour majorities of 1945 and of 1966 is that they can shrink quite drastically. If the Government are not willing to risk a referendum with a majority of 179, what hope can one have of boildness with a majority of, say, 30?

Entry in the first wave was never desirable, let alone feasible. Indeed a delay in the launch itself would benefit everyone. But given that the euro will go ahead, it would have been possible to separate the decision in principle to enter from the question of the date at which to enter, which is technical. A referendum could have been held on the question of the principle of cotry during the Presidency and, in my opinion, could have been won.

This would have reassured the markets and reaped benefits in terms of a lower exchange rate and some narrowing of the interest rate differential. In choosing to reject this option, clarity may have been bought at the cost of a tricky period of economic management during the remainder of this Parliameot. Lord DESAI House of Lords

Sir: Your leading article (28 October) is right to comment on

London SWI

the lack of democratic vigour (or should it be rigour) in the European Unioo.

Surely the geography and populations of France and Germany make it inevitable that the future of the EU will be dominated by a Franco-German axis with France as the junior partner and that any conceivable decision-making system means that we will never be able to force a British view to prevail against a Franco-German one.

This might not be worrying if our legal, cultural and political traditions were the same, but they are not and sadiy it shows in recent history. Should we tie ourselves even closer to an organisatinn dominated by a country whose lack of democratic vigour let it precipitate the major international tragedies of this century and whose politicians still affect a public indifference to their electors which would oot be tol-

The Emu (and indeed the whole EU) questioo is not whether we want to save a bit on our foreign holidays hut whether we wish to embrace political traditions which have served their own countries so badly in the receot past. JOHN PARFITT

Painswick, Gloucestershire

Summerhill school Sir: Summerhill school ("Progressive school faces closure after inspectors call", 27 October) has a long tradition of offering an alternative to mainstream education and is a model for ed-

ucators all over the world. There are many different ways of educating children and perhaps the most damaging aspect of the educational reforms of the last 18 years, which are being continued by the present Government, is the drive towards uniformity and centralisation.

In the Government's effort to raise educational standards they could do far worse than look at the very diverse and largely successful alternatives which are springing up all over the UK as growing numbers of parents become disenchanted with the educatioo system. These schools put children at the ceotre of their enterprise and this, ultimately, is what parents want.

FIONA CARNIE National Co-ordinator Human Scale Education

Sir: A S Neill once said that "you can't inspect happiness". His words seem especially apt today, given the hlinkered attitude shown towards Summerhill school by the inspectors from Ofsted (Comment, 28 October).

Fifty years ago the officials were more understanding. When I was researching Neill's

life, John Blackie, ooe of two inspectors who visited Summerhill in 1949, told me that he thought it a very happy place. Significantly, he had had a note from the Ministry of Education prior to his visit asking him to "bear in mind the particular difficulties and the par-

ticular oature of the school". His final report shows that he did so. "The children may lack here and there some of the conventions of manners, but their friendliness, ease and naturainess, and their total lack of shyness and self-consciousness. made them very easy and pleasant people to get on with". He concluded that, even though the academic side was not flourishing, the system at Summerhill eocouraged "initiative,

responsibility and integrity". Obviously no note was forthcoming from the DFEE this time round. JONATHAN CROALL

London SW13

Turkish intransigence

Sir: The news that our Government intends to invite Turkey to a conference for countries which hope to become members of the European Union is disgraceful report, 27 October).

Turkey is oot, except for the. single city of Istanbul, in Europe, Modern Turkey's attempts at democracy, though they have been gallant, have not been successful. Turkey's human rights record is appalling, from the ex-pulsion of the Greeks and the (still denied) massacre of the Armenians one lifetime ago, via the slaughter of prisoners in Cyprus in 1975, to the present persecution of the Kurds both inside Turkey and abroad.

But more important for the future than all that: Turkey is among the great international law-breakers of the world. For 27 years without intermission UN resolutions have been pour-

ing forth ordering it to vacate Northern Cyprus. For 27 years too, negotiator after negotiator from the UN has given up in de-

spair at Turkey's intrausigence.

Lord KENNET House of Lords London SW1

PRIESTLEY

Asylum seekers

Sir: If the Home Secretary wishes to take swift and decisive action to alleviate the pressure uoder which the UK asylum system is operating (report, 28 October), he would do well to tackle the backlog of 55,000 cases waiting for initial determination and 22,000 cases waiting for appeal.

It is that backlog, not the arrival of Roma in Dover, which makes the system unable to deal fairly and effectively with the current asylum claims. ZELAH SENIOR

Justice London EC4

Religious education

Sir: I am deeply opposed to the use of my taxes to fund sectarian schools, of whatever stamp ("In defence of Islamophobia", 23 October). But that doesn't mean that sects that desire to open or maintain schools promoting their beliefs shouldn't be able to. It's called freedom. Just let them pay for their own schools themselves, with the help of pareotal fees and other contributions by sympathisers.

Religious people who want to segregate their children from the mainstream should put their money where their prayers are, and leave the rest of us - the vast majority, I would hope - to fund, through our taxes, schools we approve of, where the divisiveness and superstitions of sectarianism are left at home. LYNNE REID BANKS Beaminster, Dorset

Sir: Sumiya Mann (Letters, 28 October), in her Islamic Studies classes, encourages the girls "to challenge the assumptions of their religion". Given the Islamic penalty for apostasy, we can only hope she fails. RICHARD DAWKINS Oxford

Bomber Harris

Sir: For many years Bomber Harris has been vilified for the war-time policy of saturatioo bombing, Professor Richard Overy oow seeks to pin the "blame" on Sir Charles Portal (report, 23 October). It is assumed that the policy itself was wrong.

If the saturation bombing policy shorteoed the war by a mere four weeks, it probably saved more lives than it cost. I feel sure that those in occupied France, Holland, the Channel Islands, etc, and perhaps even in Germany itself, approved of the policy as much as I do. DAVID MARKS

Law-breaking mums

London W13

Sir: Your article "Mum took drugs - but should she tell the kids?" (28 October) missed one fundamental issue. How do you explain to your children that it is okay to pick and choose those laws that you obey and those you don't? GRAHAM EVANS Northampton

Supermarkets, quizmasters, eggs and tapestries: a brief history of mistakes



KINGTON

Last July I wrote in an article the phrase, "As sure as eggs is eggs", and then I paused. I hesitated at the thought of writing such a cliché. I felt sure I could do better. So I gave myself the challenge of creating a new cliché and came up with the alternative phrase, "As sure as eggs come in boxes of six". A day or two later I got a letter from a Mr Gibbons of Leeds in Yorkshire, saying: "I read your article and I am afraid to say you're wrong - eggs do not always only come in boxes of six. I regularly get my eggs in boxes of 10 at my local Netto supermarket."

I thus learnt two new things at a stroke: one, that eggs come in metrically inspired boxes, and two, that there is a supermarket I have never heard of, I used to think that all supermarkets were household names like Asda and Sainsbury, but visits to Scotland, where I discovered local chains like Wm Low, have persuaded me swer-the Falange-but made the mistake

otherwise. Indeed, since then I have discovered supermarkets which are not eveo chains but one-off stores, like Stan's Superstore in Gobowen and one in Craven Arms, Salop, called something like Harry Martin, which was described to me by a local as a shop without which Shropshire could hardly fuoction.

But what I have learnt above all is that my readers collectively know a lot more than I do, and having stored a pedigree pile of letters from them I propose to let loose today their communal wisdom, starting with Mrs Violet Holmes of Liverpool who responded to my plea for examples of quizmasters' mistakes with this fruity one.

"On the TV quiz programme Blockbusters, the chairman Boh Holness once asked for the came of the rebel faction at the time of the Spanish Civil War. The schoolboy questioned gave the correct anof pronouncing it in perfect Spanish as 'fallanhay'. Bob said, I'm sorry, the correct word is Falanj.' I wonder if the mistake was ever pointed out to Boh and if has had dreams about it. I doubt it. I have just broken off writing this letter to watch Call My Bluff and Bob Holness used the word lucubrate with a soft 'c' instead of a

Ouch. And on to the next letter, from A A Horsman, who has a Robert Robinson Brain of Britain memory.

"The question (asked by Robert Robinson) was as follows: True or false? The following are all cathedral cities,' followed by a string of otherwise irreproachable places like York, but including Oxford and Camhridge. 'False,' replied the cootestant, 'Oxford is not.' And neither is Cambridge,' said Robert Robinson, giving him the point. Since Oxford IS a cathedral city, though Cambridge is not, the contestant got the right answer for the wrong reason. Should he have got the point?"

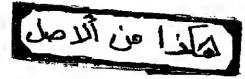
Well, I never could tell the difference between cities and towns, so I don't know. 1 was once told that any place with a cathedral was a city, and I clung on to this comforting bit of jetsam until I realised it was not true, so now I don't know what to believe, nor do I care; and oo to the oext letter which is from Roderick South of Crawley, who writes as follows:

"Just one more mispronunciation for your collection, which was made the more amusing for me by the evideot care and effort which was made by the mis-pronouncer. A young lady TV oewsreader who shall remain nameless because I can't remember her name had been assigned the European football results. Dundee United were playing the home leg of their tie against an Italian club. Clearly under the misapprehension that they were playing the

away leg, her beautifully enunciated voice said: And turning to Dunde e United's game in Italy on the Tanna-dichay ground...; whereas in fact the Dundee ground is called a very non-Italian Tannadice..."

And finally on to a letter from Gerald Baird in Angus, who encloses a photocopy of the cover of the first Canoogate edition of Sir David Lindsay's The Thrie Estaitis. The publishers have chosen a piece of a 15th-century tapestry as an illustration. What is the tapestry called? Well, according to the note on the back, it is entitled "After Conservation"

As Mr Baird notes, this is an unlikely name for a tapestry. What has happened is that the restorers put a cote on it saying "After Conservatioo" and the publishers thought it was the title. They have come to their senses in subsequent editions, but Mr Baird has not forgotten their gaffe, and good



The imagination must not be bound by fear



∃iwa

DAVID WALKER FICTION AND MORALITY

On page 58 of The End of Alice a man describes being buggered. It is - this is the usual word - graphic. The novel's narrator, lying on a prison hunk, tells in detail how it feels to be penetrated by a fellow inmate. As a piece of writing it works: the words put you there in a cell, wondering, empathising,

The scene is by no means the most explicit in this book but it is the most shocking. Shocking that is, nut in its content, but in reminding us all - potential readers, the National Society for the Prevention of Crucity to Children, W.H.Smith executives - of the arbitrariness, the waywardness of imagination.

That is because the author of The End of Alice is a woman, Amy Homes. What she succeeds in doing is voicing a character. someone who isn't her, a man. She succeeds in imagining someone else who takes on a life. Isn't that capacity to imagine a close cousin of freedom?

Fictional characters live only on a printed page. They are intelligible only to those who understand words; in this novel, schoolroom words, such as vestment, Pavlovian, pate. The plot is only available moreover to readers used to the conventions of the epistolary novel. This is, in other words, a piece of encoded fiction, available only to initiates. If it is going to stimulate acts of paedophilia or sexual mayhem, we at least have the consolation of knowing the perpetrators will have been moderately well-educated.

For an answer to the lit crit question, which is whether as a piece of writing this fiction is any good, Independent readers will need to wait for the books columns on Saturday. What prompted this week's outhurst from . the chorus of child care officers, priests and set his comeuppance in what regularly comes. politicians was a public question - what to do with a book, the presumed subject matter of which is the reflections of a paedophile? The chorus argues for control, as it did recently over the film hased on J G Ballard's novel Crash.

It is easy to rebut them. Their main problem of would be Platonic Guardians (such as the editor of the Daily Mail and the chief executive of the NSPCC) is their selective behaviourism - the belief that says I can read the book/watch the film and pronounce it depraved and corrupting, on your behalf, without (of course) myself suffering the merest hint of moral corrosion.

Their other difficulty is their taking such a mechanistic approach to fiction. Here, in The End of Alice, is a work of imagination in which, for example, a child is invited to

commit incest with his mother by, excuse the phrase, inserting his fist into her vagina. Ripped from its place in the storyline (the author's not very convincing attempt to exculpate her protagonist by remembering his own abuse in childhood), it sounds racy. But even contextless, could it be seriously suggested that parents or their children, reading that, are going to start to have sexual relations? Books are not hilliard balls that bounce people into behaving differently.

But having rejected the moral guardians, we are left wondering whether hooks ever have any effects at all, in the sense of baving consequences for the way people behave? Put as baidly as that, the naswer has to be yes. Authors certainly like to think so, when it suits. Amy Homes, for example, was claiming this week she knew enough to take part in public debates with the NSPCC, implying a pretty snug fit between the world of imagination and reality. But of course her book is not "about paedophilia"; it is a novel. What she does for a living is to make things up.

Clearly there is money in the supposition that books have effects. It suits Ms Homes's publisher, Anchor (a division of Transworld). that the book is controversial - other publishers pay good money for this kind of hype. In a different way, it suits the NSPCC to get its name on the front page: charities are competitive, the children's charities especially so. (Too be fair to the NSPCC, it asked for a voluntary decision by retailers not to stock it rather than a government ban. Not for the first time W H Smith was first to rush to guard our morals - making the case for Tim Waterstone to take it over stronger than

Some philosophers like to think that good books - "art" - do good. But George Stein-er's point stands; what price art (or fiction) if the concentration camp guard comes home in the evening and plays Mozart (or reads Tolstoy) for pleasure? In his new book on music, out this week, the conservative aesthetician Roger Scruton writhes round the question. In his world, perhaps, no one who was ugly, let alone a paedophile, would ever be the subject of art.

But what if fiction itself strives to teach a moral lesson - does that improve the hehaviour of the reader? As Amy Homes has said in interviews, her paedophile protagonist is, after all, in the twenty-third year of a jail sentence imposed for the slaughter of 11-year-old Alice and, she hints, gets part up his anus.

his anus.
That's crude. But so is the general level of the "effects" argument - even, or especially, when informed by empirical research of often stunning hanality. So doesn't the question need to be put in a subtler way. Could such fiction coarsen the culture, could it contribute to an "atmosphere" in which perversion spreads? If impermissible thought gets popular expression (in a muchhyped novel, say) does it acquire legitimacy? Does talking about the forbidden makes it acceptable?

But this comes close to reinventing thought crime. It's an old conclusion, but worth restating. Imagination, even depraved imagining, is a dimension of civic freedom. If the price of liberty is the fiction of perversity, it is still worth paying.



Reaping the harvest: farm machinery in the future may be made of soya plastic

Can soya beans save the environment?



RICHARD **D NORTH TECHNOLOGY GOES GREEN**

There is something poetic and comforting in the news that John Deere, the tractor maker, is investing in a plastic door derived from soya heans. The development by Professor Richard Wood of the University of Delaware holds out the promise that heavy, dreary old metal can be replaced without

recourse to nasty new plastic. Great. It is certainly true that we need to replace weighty materials with light ones. Every source of fuel for any vehicle or anything else is polluting in one way or another, so it is clearly silly, say, to waste energy running around in combine harvesters which are heavier than they need to be. Equally, people want to do their shopping in Jecps, just in case the end of civilisation as we know it happens in the Tesco's car park and a quick getaway through the lines of foot-weary evacuees is needed. But Jeeps need to be lightweight too. There is an important strand

of modern ecological thinking charm when some retro item is abled women to go out to always been that they can take which culogises Factor Four. This is the latest rubric to come from the pioneer friend of the earth, Amory Lovins, of Snowmass, Colorado. It suggests we can be green and affluent: we can be twice as rich if we are also twice as energy

Greens of the moderate kind are now miles away from the Greenpeace mentality, typified by those who hated the Millennium Dome because it was to be covered by PVC. It is now to be made out of something like Teflon which will last a hit longer, and for some reason upsets this sort of green less, though it still attracted fundamentalist protest on Tuesday. The realists celebrate, very sensibly, the techno-fixes which work and are sustainable, while being suspicious - rightly - of people who are merely technically gung-ho.

But we need to be careful when we suppose we have much idea what really is sound, and especially about seeking cosiness. That John Deere's new material is soya-based is charming to many people's minds because the non-metal material of choice has always otherwise heen plastic. It is an article of modero faith that what is plastic is nasty. On the one hand, it is a new material which does not lend itself to craftsmanship. It is made and moulded industrially. William Morris, romantic, socialist, medievalist and craftsman, did not create in plastic. The closest plastic comes to attractiveness is through its becoming kitsch. Plastic can only have

made of it. And on the other hand: plustics are non-destructible. People believe (wrongly) that it is inevitable for them not to be hiodegradable. They are trash made

Plastics offend some important myths about what is natural in the world. They epitomise what we worry about most: a retreat from the organic. There seems to be a spectrum of "naturalness", running from the Prelapsarian hunting and gathering ideal, through natural things worked primitively or exquisitely, and on up until one finds the chemical and the industrial processes we now distrust as polluting and alienating.

Actually, the hulk of what is In a plastic is organic, in the sense that most plastics are made of oil (fossilised bugs) and salt, and the application of heat and pressure. What's more, some plastics and manmade fabrics, such as cellophane and rayon (the kind in the now fashionable retro clothing), are made from cellulose, which is derived from wood. Does this make them any more natural than the oilbased ones, or much less so

than heavily-fertilised cotton? Almost all plastics biodegrade slowly, which makes them ideal for core uses such as water-pipework. If only the Victorians had made their sewers in the reviled and chlorinebased PVC, we would not now be wasting at least a third of our rather variable supply of rainwater. What is more, it is the distrusted plastics that have enwork, by providing easy food storage, And so on.

What matters most is to

stress that plastics - like paper - are excellent fuel. A plastic package (it's true of a newspaper too) is just the stuff for the kind of municipal incineration, with modern effluent control, which should be dealing with our waste. Why burn our oil without using it first? Why use it without hurning it after? Now it happens that incineration, which is a very natural process, is regarded by many greens as being at the very "unnatural" end of our spectrum, It is a non-starter. Similarly, we are unlikely to be able to pursue nuclear power because the most natural and ecologically sound means of disposing of its waste - dumping it in the deep oceans - is regarded, almost certainly quite wrongly, as dangerously un-

Turning hack to our soya plastic. It may be efficient. But we'd need to be scrupulous in our ecological judgement. If it hiodegrades in a landfill, the microbial action involved will produce the global warming gas methane. Left tying around it would hiodegrade to the global warmer, carbon dioxide. Or would we rather hum the door in an incinerator and get the energy back that way? And would the thing really he efficient? One hig problem with using agricultural crops for fuel has

natural. The sea is, after all,

radioactive and vast.

rather more energy (in fertiliser and pesticide) than they save in use. And where will they be. grown: in the ex-rainforests of

Indonesia, perhaps? The core issue is cultural. We have rather a down on chemists and their industry. We forget that God was first a physicist, then a geologist and a chemist. Still, his greatest work was as a hiologist. It is certainly true that the next century seems to belong to hiology. But that is the science which now poses the biggest ethical uncertainties as well as some of the higgest intellectual and commercial possibilities. As we fall in love with a soya door, we will need to remember that the way to make it energy efficient is to hio-engineer the soya so as to require less fertiliser, pesticide and water. And this sort of bio-technology raises large questions as to naturalness and possible ecological damage.

We might go further, remembering that Prof Wood is a chemical engineer. The clever thing to do would be to take the desirable enzymes from soya plants and replicate them in a hio-fermenter, a hio-chemical process. There'd be no farming involved, hut no rainforest destruction either. The thing to remember about factories is that they save habitat. Life seems to be like that: what the world calls unnatural sometimes preserves the natural, and the seemingly natural can have its own hazards.

Half term, and the children shamble round like bedraggled Romanies



JOHN WALSH

Ah the joys of half term. The deep satisfaction of sharing a week with one's precociously gifted children, in a spirit of holiday fun and communal selfbetterment.

The fascination of discovering of how a whole generation pre-pubescent future Blairites is facing the challenge of tomorrow ... No such luck. Half term in

three hellish characteristics. Family discussion for one, has taken on a peculiar quality. Where, last year, it seemed that the average nine-year-old was capable of uttering, unaided, only two things, namely, "Oh cool" and "No way", now even this meagre dole of speech has disappeared from their lips. In its place is a thing - hardly a word, more a bolted phoneme voiced at a high, complaining pitch - which sounds like "Nehharhe". It comes from watching too many Friends videos (Rachel apparently used to say it all the time) and it signifies that though the speaker would like to vocalise the words "It's not fair" or "I'd rather not", this sound is the only utterance they can be bothered to make. So. you ask, would you and your friends care for a ride in the hot air balloon at Vauxhall Gardens? "Neh-harhe." OK then, stay here and you can help me wash the Renault. "Neh-harhe daddy."

Half term also means nits. There has been an outbreak, practically a pandemic, in south London lately and one or two jumping microbes have indeed been seen on the baby's fragrant and pristine bonce.

So everyone in the house has to be doused with proprietory brands of lotions called "Nil Nit 90", which have both the pong and disinfectant kick of DDT But then a recent scare broke out and mothers were warned that hrands of scalp-cleansing

London has taken on at least nit-repellent could carry ghastly side-effects, leaving their innocent children's heads spinning with toxins, at which the middle classes of SE21 went all

> The only known nits-remedy outside the chemical laboratory of Sacramento and Salzburg turns out to be an expensive cocktail of Tea Tree oil and vodka, liberally applied.

homeopathic.

The children now shamble about the house like bedraggled Romanies on the Dover shingle, smelling like alcoholic

Tea Tree oil? Where does that come from? Nobody had heard of it in July and now it's everywhere, like Cranberry recipes were last autumn. It is clearly the most bogus concoction since Heinz put salad cream and tomato ketchup together and called it Thousand Island Dressing. Is it just me or is this the most egregiously fake medication since Dobbirods Horse Rejuvenating Pills were advertised on Round the Home? What does the label say? "Tea Tree essential oil is produced by steam distillation of the leaves."

Tea leaves. Surely the only thing produced by steam distillation of tea leaves is a drink with jam and bread. And the fact that this noisome concoction has to be diluted or beefed up with my dwindling supplies of Virgin Vodka ("triple distilled for extra purity", indeed) is enough to leave you muttering darkly in the streets, like small investors worried

And which leaves are these?

about the oew Wall Street

Ring-ring. But who can this be at the front door interrupting your dark reverie? Why, it is Bertie, a charming bespectacled six-year-old with Milky Bar Kid demeanour and extremely loud voice; he is arriving as part of that other half-term tradition, the Child Swop. When your own delinquent kids gets bored with their own home (usually inside 36 hours), it is now mandatory that you pack them off to someone else's house to break some other child's toys and destroy their parents wallpaper, on the understanding that their tiny hooligan will come round for a return match a week later. And here he is. "Bertie is having a slight problem with the diarrhoea," says Anna the Bosnian nanny on the doorstep. "He sometimes is having trouble finding the loo in time. But he is a good boy and does not mean it." What? "I pick him up at zeven. Bye bye." She is gone. Bertie strides past, suspiciously bandy of gait. The baby trundles by, a tragic Millais urchin surmounted by

Tendrils of Tea Tree oiled curls. It must be lovely, somebody says, spending half term with the kids. "Neh-hahre" I reply. A quick getaway up the M1 and we find ourselves in Yorkshire,

only find described by the Lake poets. The local bacon is salted within an inch of its life. The lady in the village's only shop, surveying my afternoon purchase of tomorrow's breakfast, says appreciatively, "That's a fine tea you've got there." Outside the shop, a hoarding for the local newspaper reads "Yorks Pensioners' Bus Explodes". The signposts carry village names of such preposterous picturesqueness (Kettlething Bottom, and Blub-

berhouses), they must have



'Neh-harhe,' as Rachel says in 'Friends'

been invented the other day by English Heritage to seduce the impressionable southerner. And in a local restaurant. where 35 matrons in ironclad foundation garments and sturdy J B Priestley heroine hlouses and skirts are preparing to staying in a village just outside celebrate some unimaginable Harrogate. God, it's so northcommunity endeavour (could era. The fields are covered by they be the Last Of The Suma hoarfrost, the kind you'd mer Wine fan cluh?), I encounter a philosophical impasse you wouldn't find in the establishment of Sir Terence Conran.

Its 7.15 pm. Here is the prix fixe menu, three courses for a song. But one of our number doesn't fancy the lamb or the game pie and orders a steak off the à la carte menu. "You can't," said the waitress with the streaming cold. Why not? "The à la carte menu docsn't start until 7.30.

Well OK, said my friend, I'll just sit here for 15 minutes then order it. "No you can't do that," said the waitress. Why not? "Because you came in before 7.30," the girl explained. "So you've still got the threecourse menu." We conferred with each other. All right then, I said. Would it be OK if my friend went outside while the others had their first course, then came back in at 7.31 pm and ordered a steak? The waitress sniffed. "I wonldn't think you'd get a steak then. We've got 35 for dinner and they'll probably order a lot of steaks." Yes, but if you know I want one and I will he back here one minute past the deadline surely you could ..." "I'm sorry," the waitress said firmly. "You're in early menu time.

And that was that. Like lost travellers in Back To The Future we had encountered a Northern hinterland that would defeat Stephen Hawking and Douglas Adams; we were stuck, steakless in a temporal noman's land; becalmed in early



Martin Pace

Martin Gaze Pace, sculptor: born York 29 March 1949; married 1980 Sue Hainsworth (one son, one daughter); died York 9 September 1997.

Some artists are inextricably linked with the landscape in which they live and from which their work gains sustenance one thinks of Cotman and Constable, Seurat or Hopper. The sculptor Martin Pace was a memorable example.

For the past 25 years, Pace carved a distinctive route through the vagaries and fashions of contemporary sculpture. borrowing and appropriating from past and present, but always speaking with a highly original voice. During this period he knew national - and international - recognition, as well as relative, undeserved neglect. He treated both with his characteristic chuckle of self-deprecating humour, buoyed as always by his family and his heloved Yorkshire landscapes, whether the Wolds, the Dales, the rugged coast, or most especially the North York

He was the third child of George Pace, one of the most eminent ecclesiastical architects in post-war Britain (his work is celebrated in a 1990 monograph by Martin's younger brother, Peter). After early years at St Peter's School in York, he studied sculpture at Cheltenham College of Art, where in the late 1960s Antanas Brazdys was a

charismatic influence. Turning down opportunities for postgraduate study, he returned to the county - and city - of his upbringing and inspiration, gaining his first and only full-time teaching post at York School of Art. He found himself amongst a lively, fairly unmanageable crew of youthful artists/teachers, led by the fearsome but kindly Denis Donn, a martinet of the old school.

Donn gave avuncular encouragement to his raw but clearly prodigious talent as Pace became part of the Foundation course team. This was a potent mix of anarchic creativity and scholarly conservatism, which flourished in the hallowed neo-classical backquarters of the City Art Gallery before it decamped to a new building of modernist anonymity on the edge of the city.

Pace survived the move with customary optimism, and carried the baton of outrageous invention for the next 20 years. 1 knew him as a teaching colleague during those heady early Seventies, and spent two memorable years living with him in a menage of girlfriends, livestock and ploughed-over potatoes on a remote and very redundant farm on the East Yorks Plain, There was no challenge too daunting for him: light came from oil lamps, haths were in heer harrels, food from the fields and Nelly the goat, fuel and artistic materials from the local copse. The 1974 World Cup was viewed on a - colour - television running off a Honda generator whose noise drowned that of the

frightened Nelly. Pace peopled that landscape the first of many such fashioned domains - with wonderful sculpture, dotted around rusting harns and abandoned tractors. It was probably Yorkshire's first, if not most famous, Sculpture Park.

Pace never saw himself as a narrowly figurative artist - his work was too saturated with knowledge and love of modernist abstraction, of the formalism of Japanese sculpture. woodcut and garden design, of the surreal frottage of Ernst and the metaphysical constructs of de Chirico and Carra. There was, too, his ahiding love of poetry, especially Wilfrid Owen. science fiction and Surrealist film. He was a huge magpic, creating nests from the most unlikely farragoes of the borrowed and found.

Pace was an outstanding draughtsman, and his drawings, typically large pen and ink works, had a Brueghelesque fecundity of imaginative detail. These images fed his sculptural practice, with their fusion of reality and fantasy; all this was in place very early in his career.

As adept at carving as forging, equally fluent with metal, wood, plaster or stone, he inherited a reverence for material from his father, and shared his perfectionist nature. It was his all-round mastery of the crafts of sculpture, serving a thoroughly contemporary sensibility, which made him such an effective teacher; technique always followed creativity, expressed in his case through that most curiously omnivorous imagination. During a long period of decline in the teaching of drawing and technical skills in art schools. Pace's teaching of the importance of those fundamentals to any young aspiring artist - including those waiting for the nod from

Saatchi and suchlike - was ex-



Pace: a huge magpie of the borrowed and found

emplary throughout the Sev-

enties and Eighties. To a degree, his own career suffered from his devotion to his students, and to his family. An eminent dealer once told him he should make a choice between fame and home life; Pace knew the answer instinctively. By this time he had reached the height of his professional success; during 1975-85 his work was included in the

.: . .

most prestigious surveys of went into a gentle diminuendo were one-man shows in Newcastle. York and London; visits to the most important art schools around the country; and his work was collected here and in the United States. He alsoenjoyed vigorous patronage by Vera Russell, who included

ket shows in London. From this point his career

contemporary sculpture; there as the ties of family and the roots. of his beloved landscape took hold, and his distaste for metropolitan hype gained the upper hand. However, the quantity and quality of his work never doclined - indeed it was beginning to take on new dimensions, as evidenced by the last works: paintings, interestingly, which lie still drying in his studio.

Gen Sir Frederick Browning

Daphne du Maurier.

William Shand

William Shand, poet and writer: born Glasgow 20 December 1902; married 1938 Valerie Clarebout (marriage dissolved 1942), 1950 Susana Weissmann (died 1994); died Buenos Aires 8 October 1997.

The Angre Argentine poet and short-story writer William Shand said that he wanted to live to be 95, an age he would have reached in December when a special tribute, a volume of articles by friends and literary critics, was to be presented to him. "Better an bonour in life than a monument when you're dead," he said.

He will be remembered most in Argentina for some of his later poems (in Spanish), which appeared in the Sunday books section of the Buenos Aires newspaper La Nacion. and for his 1970 anthology Contemporary Argentine Poetry. a translation into English of Argentine poets which is remarkable for the breadth of its inclusions, ignoring the deep political differences which in those years decided who could be published and who not.

He had previously published a volume of translations into Spanish of English poetry of the Spanish Civil War (in 1947). with the late Argentine poet Alberto Girri, another of English poets (1950), and translations of John Donne (1953), US poets (1956), and Stephen

Spender (1967). In addition, his own production was copious. He had published about a dozen collections of his own poems in English, seven volumes of short stories in English and Spanish, and over a dozen short plays. His last book, published in 1996, was an 800-page collection of his short stories in Spanish written between 1975 and 1992. This he struggled to prepare after writing a volume of poems in memory of his wife, Susana Weissmann, who died in

and his novelist wife Dame In the world of music he will be remembered for his libretto, written with Girri in 1990, for Alberto Ginastera's opera Beatrix Cenci, commissioned by the Opera Society of Washington. It premiered at the Kennedy Centre in Washington in 1971, and in Buenos Aires,

at the Colon theatre, in 1992. But even if he is not remembered for all his literary output the pleasures he got out of life, out of friendship, out of the gossip of the literary community, and his love affairs perhaps most of all his love affairs - will be recalled over lunches and suppers in Buenos Aires, for many years to come.

Shand was very much an urhan writer, and the characters in his writing belong to the tangled existence of the city. The Scottish-Canadian critic John Walker wrote in The Land that England Lost (1992):

François-Henri de Virieu, journalist died Marly-le-Roi. France 26 October, aged 65, Founding editor of Le Matin de Paris in 1977, and host of the television news programme Hour of Truth from 1982. Elerted Mayor of

Shand's method is to present the in-dividuals and the families as they really are - lacking in communication, respect, love, morality and values. As respect, love, morality and values. As they go, so goes society. Shand does not hesitate to use the scalpel and open up the cancers to reveal the pus of corruption at all levels, whether it be in commerce or in politics.

And yet. Shand was a man of great good humour, addressing men and women friends always in the same way. "How are you, lindo (or linda)?" With a loud laugh. His birthday suppers, over the last decade, were gatherings of friends who enjoyed his endearments but a ways had to hear a speech damning the corruption in government and in Argentine

William Shand was born in Glasgow in 1902, but that was a geographical accident and he had no trace of Scots. His father was a jeweller, in Clapham. south London, and his mother was born in Thlisi into a Jewish family,

He started out in his father's business and enjoyed a comfortable middle-class youth. He lived in Berlin for a time. in the mid-1920s, having fallen in love with a German woman. and on his return to London fell madly in love with an Indian girl studying in Britain. In 1938, he married the sculptor Valerie Clarebout, with whom he cardto Argentina. She left him in 1942, and Shand married a second time in 1950.

His first poems were puhlished in the Observer, His first collection of poems was published in Buenos Aires, in 1942, and tollowed with a second book soon after which was prefaced by the Argentine writer Jorge Luis Borges.

He made his living in Buenos Aires with an advertising agency, where the Ar-



Shand: 'felt' young

gentine writer Ernesto Sábato was his partner for a time in 1946. Eventually, his agency was changed into a rep office seifing subscriptions to foreign publications. When he retired. aged 75, he gave the husiness to his employees. In 1982, during the Falklands-Malvinas war. he became an Argentine citizen. Algebranic

Shand thoroughly enjoyed his long life. When he died, in spite, of his age, and the expected end, friends were distraught. Shand "felt" young in spite of his years.

- Andrew Graham-Yooli

Dale Stewart, anthropologist, died Bethesda, Maryland 27 October, aged 96. Former Direcint of the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History and one of the world's leading experts on human bones - both

Maurice Griffiths

Maurice Walter Griffiths, yacht designer, journalist and author: born London 22 May 1902; Editor, Yachting Monthly 1927-67, George Medal 1941; married 1927 Dulcie Kennard (marriage dissolved 1934). 1944 Marjorie Copson (died 1997); died Colchester, Essex

Yachting in the 1920s was a sport for the wealthy, hut thanks to developments in design and materials it was later brought within the reach of everyone. Among the pioneers who made sailing affordable was Maurice Griffiths, whose first book in 1925 was Ynchting on a Small Income. More than 70 years on he rounded off his long literary career in 1996 with Spiling on a Modest Income. In the decades between, as editor, author and yacht designer, he devoted his life to the cause of cheaper sailing.

It was not his first amhition. The son of a glove salesman and a mother whom he described as "a vehement suffragette", he was from the age of four fascinated by the "beautiful blue engines with shining brass" of the Great Eastern Railway, which he saw in his home town of Ipswich. His first published writings in 1921 were railway articles for the East

Anglian Daily Times, and one of his three novels (Dempster and Son) was about a family of railwaymen. But his father could not afford to pay for an apprenticeship, so the young Maurice started work for an estate agent

instead. It was at this time that he first became interested in sailing. I sent him a card on his 90th birthday which fortuitously depicted a reach of the River Orwell; it was, he wrote, "singularly appropriate for it was just where I found my first boat in 1921". Thereafter sailing was to dominate his life and he went

When his book Yachting on a Small Income proved popular. new opportunities opened up. In 1926 he was invited to become editor of the Ynchting Monthly. a post he was to hold (apart from his war service) for over 40 years. The magazine ran design competitions and Griffiths became increasingly interested in this aspect of the sport. The eminent yacht designer Frederick Shepherd taught him and in 1929 Griffiths received his first commission for an eight-ton centreboard cruiser named Wind Song. Years later, partly for sentimental reasons. Griffiths

He was inveterate buyer and seller of yachts. Once, with his help. I compiled a list of them: the total came to more than 20. As be wrote, "the list reads, I must admit, like a battle fleet, but huying boats so as to experiment with them has been something of a manic hobby". It was one of the reasons his first wife left him. He had married Dukie Kennard in 1927: she was a fellow enthusiast, with her own yacht Juanita from which she would never part. They were divorced in 1934, and she married the marine artist Charles Pears - to whom Maurice Griffiths had sold a yacht in 1924.



Griffiths beside a classic boat at West Mersea

Photograph: Paul Geider / Yochung Monthly

The Second World War brought further changes in Griffiths's life. He joined the RNVR and was soon commander of a flotilla of mine recovery ships, based in his beloved East Anglia. In January 1941 he was one of the first recipients of the George Medal, "For gallantry and undaunted devotion to duty". Later as a Lieut-Commander he became expert on defusing magnetic mines in the Middle Easl and on D-Day's Mulberry Harbours. These experiences culminated in a book on minelaying, The Hidden Mennce (1981). In the Navy he also met his second wife - 3rd Officer Marjorie Popson of the WRNS, whom he married in 1944. "Coppie" died in Feb-

him in her famous Artists Mar-

ruary 1997, at the age of 90. Back in the Yuchting Monthly's editorial chair in 1945. Griffiths also resumed his designing career. In 1957 his shoal draught hilge keel cruising yacht Eventide was launched. She was intended for home-building by amateurs, and by 1980 over 1,800 sets of plans had been sold. The Waarreick design of 1961 was similarly successful, and more than 100 were built. He also produced plans for individual owners. The most farmous was Jeanne D'Arc in 1951 for Lieut-

I first made contact with MG, as he was generally known, in 1945; as a schoolboy

of 14, I was making a model of his yach! Wilful. He responded enthusiastically and sent me a plan. Thereafter we corresponded sporadically over many years. We met at the 1980 Boat Show when he told me sadly that he had had to sell his last yacht Kylix and give up sailing. "I smashed my leg," he said, "and I have a hernia which means I can't lift an anchor." So he and Marjorie ended their days ashore at West

Mersea, on the East Coast, which his many books bring so vividly to life. Sometimes they were illustrated with his own attractive pen and ink drawings. Some of their titles are splendidly evocative: Ten Small Yachts (1933), Little Ship and Shoal Walers (1937). The First of the Tide (1979). Round the Cabin Tuble (1985), Sixty Years a Yueln Designer (1988). But his supreme masterpiece is The Magic of the Swatcheens (1932), written with the sharp eye of a practical sailor and a romantic imagination of a poet. No one else has so delicately written iil what he called "the silence of the creeks". - Dennis Bird

Marh-le-Roi in 1995.

ancient, and for the FBI.

BIRTHS. **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

BIRTHS

BARRY: To Katharina (nee Ricepell and Simon, a son, Edmund Florian, on 23 October 1997 at St Mary's, Paddington.

DEATHS

BEASLEY: On 28 October 1997, suddeniv at Rosemarkie, Doctor John Bensley, of Pipers House, Shelfield Green, Alcester, Loved husband of Rosemary and father of Sally, Roderick and Catherine, Private cremation. Memorial service to be arranged.

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS please telephone 0171-293 2011 or fax to 0171-293 2010. Charges

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Duke of York, Parun, S. Circu Bruam Project, attends a diamer on beard the SS Grout Bruam at the Great Western Dock, Gas Ferry, Ruad, Bristol, The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, the Progressive Supranuclear Palsy [PSP] Association, vis-its the Neuro-Genetic Section of the In-

Changing of the Guard Changing to the Charly Mumical Regi-ment mounts the Outer's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham: F Company Scots Guard mounts the Outer's Francia at Buckleigham Palace, 11 Mam, band pre-

Birthdays

Sir Charles Brett, solicitor, 69: Sir Anthony Compbell. High Court judge. Nonhern Ireland, 61: Lord Chilver. chairman, RJB Mining, 7t; Sir Robert Clayton, former technical di-rector of GEC, 82; Mr John Dain, diplomat, 58; Mr Stephen Day MP. 49; Lord Derwent, managing direc-tor, Hutchison Whampon (Europe) Ltd. 67: Sir Roben Easton, chairman and managing director, GEC Scot-land, 75: Professor Sir Christopher Foster, advisor to the chairman, Coopers & Lybrand Associates, 67: Sir Sydney Giffard, former diplomat. 71: Sir Malachy Higgins, High Court judge, Northern Iretand, 53; Miss Ruth Hussey, actress, 83; Mr Shlo-mo Mintz, violinist, 40; Lord Robert-son, former senator of the College of Justice in Scotland, 85: Mr Stanley Sadie, editor, Grove Music Dic-tionaries, 67: Sir William Shelton, former MP, 68; Miss Grace Slick, rock singer, 58; Miss Juliet Stevenson, actress, 41; Lieut-Gen Sir Richard Swinburn, farmer, and former General Officer Commanding, Southern District, 60: Admiral Sir Gordon Tait, 76: Mr Bob Wilson, television football commentator, 56; Sir David Wilson, former director of the British

film producer and director, 62.

Anniversaries Births: Maria Anna Angelica Kaufi-mann, painter, 1741; Richard Brinsley Butler Sheridan, playwright, 1751; Ezra Loomis Pound, pret. 1885; Peter Warlock (Philip Arnold Heseltine), composer, 1894, Deaths: Edmund Cartwright, power-loom

Museum, 66; Mr Michael Winner,

inventor, 1825; John Chubb, locksmith, 1872; Jran-Henri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross, 1910; Dame Emilie Rose Macaulay, nov-elist, 1958: James Allan Mollison, pioneer aviator, 1959; Sir Barnes Neville Wallis, inventor, 1979. On this day: the Yeomen of the Guard were established by Henry VIL 1485: Sir Francis Drake completed his circumnavigation of the world when he arrived at Plymouth in the Golden Hind, 1580; an independent government was established for Venezuela by Bolivar, 1817; Orson Welles' radio play. The War of the Borlds, caused panic in the US, 1938. Today is the Feast Day of S, Alphonsus Rodriguez. St Asterius of Amasea, St Ethelnoth, St Germanus of Capua, St Marcellus the Centu-rion and St Serapion of Antioch.

Lectures

National Gallery: Alexander Stur-gis. "Hogarth 15): Hogarth's public". 1pm.

Victoria and Albert Museum: Caroline Ranoll, "French Furniture in the Roccoo Taste", 2.30pm. British Museum: Carol Andrews Jewellery of Ancient Egypt". National Portrait Gallery: Judy

Egenen, "Raeburn's English Con-temporaries", L.Upm.

Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, London ECC: Professor Simon Lee, "Law and Morals Revisited: equality and New Labour", 5.30pm. RIBA: Sir Christopher Benson, "Archilecture is Everywhere, 6.30pm. Leicester University: Brian Allen Rousing the National Spint: histo-

LAW REPORT: 30 OCTOBER 1997

Adoption granted despite immigration irregularities

An adoption application which was tainted by deception with regard to immigration regulations but which was supported by a real parent and child relationship was not to be regarded in the same way as a sharn application of convenience.

Rative Mississi (Appetito) Non Partition of Accession Autore Schemann, Long action torple and Lord Judice Muniment)

The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal against the refusal of Mr Justice Singer to make an adoption order in repect of the child J. aged eight.

I's natural parents, who lived in Pakistan, had arranged that when I was born he would be given to the adoptive parents, who were infertile, as their own. I's natural father and his adoptive father were

were British citizens. Accord- judgment in Re H (Adoption: ing to custom in Pakistan the arrangemnt had the full consequences of an adoption order in our society. When J was five his natural parents brought him to England, having reecived entry clearance for a two week holiday. The natural parents returned to Pakistan, leaving I with the adoptive parents. who appled to adopt him. Combin Munhoch QK (Bonser & Danes, West Midlandes for the aster-

Treasury Solicitors for the Home Lord Justice Thorpe said that the judge had defined the issue in the case as the balance between the welfare advantages to J of allowing the adoption

me ramme Eleabeth Coleman for

the Official Selector, I was time arrivers

of public policy. He had directed himself by cousins. The adoptive parents reference to his Lordship's

application and considerations

Non-Patrial) [1997] | WLR 971. saying that, although he did not read that judgment as stating that where there had been any degree of deliberate circumvention of immigration regulations and controls the adoption application was doomed to failure, the policy considerations he had noweigh included the effect of granting an adoption order on the world at large. It would be grossly unfair if people who cheated were able to steal a march on those attempting to secure lawful entry.

His Lordship wished first to clarify what he had said in Re H concerning misuse and blatant duse of the right to apply for adoption. He had not intended that passage to apply to real applications tainted by deception in their history, but to sham applications or applications of convenience comparable to the marriage of convenience.

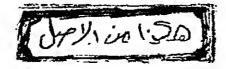
But where the adoption upplication was supported by the fundamental foundation of a parent and child relationship the function of the court was to apply section 6 of the Adoption Act 1976 giving full weight to the guidance as to what was meant by first consideration in Re D (An Infant) (Adoption: Parents Consent) [1977] AC 602 and to the guidance given specifically in non-patrial cases in Re W (A Minur) (Adoption: Non Patrial) [1986] Fam 54. Secondly, it was worth con-

sidering the extent of the adoptive parents' misconduct in the light of the alternative courses of action open to them. The onecedures where a child had not been legally adopted or had heen adopted in a country which was not designated by the Adoption (Designation of Overseas Adoptions) Order 1973 made plain that, if the adoption were to proceed in this jurisdi-

cation after entry, the Department required to be satisfied that the proposed adoption involved a genuine transfer of parental responsibility on the ground of the natural parents'

inability to care for the child. Although it had been stressed that the Home Secretary retained an unfettered discretion, the policy statement was uncompromising and nude no provision at all for a custom which the court had been told was recognised in many parts of the world. Leaving aside legal analysis, to allow the appeal was to give the present case its proper place in the outcome of reported non patrial cases. Orders had only been refused where the minor was on the verge of majority. It would be hard to explain to the adoptive parents why they had failed when their compatriots had

succeeded in Re H. - Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister



BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR, JEREMY WARNER NEWS DESK: 0171-293 2636 FAX: 0171-293 2098 E-MAIL: INDYBUSINESS@ INDEPENDENT.CO.UK FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

Sainsbury's pushes up profits and market share

Sainsbury's continued its recovery yesterday with improved profits, an increase in market share and the announcement of a new boardroom structure.

The supermarket group also plans to reduce its emphasis on non-food lines such as clothing, electrical appliances and cookery items to concentrate on providing a fuller food offer. Nigel Cope, City Correspondent, reports.

Lord David Sainsbury, chairman, said largest grocer was not a realistic aim. Sainshe was pleased the company was now moving in the right direction but admitted that the process was far from complete. "We recognise that our achievements represent the first steps in the group's recovery and that there is still work still to be done in each of the husinesses," he said.

He was speaking as Sainsbury's announced a 6.2 per cent increase in first-half profits to £411m which included a 4 per cent increase in same-store sales. The figures have helped Sainsbury's improve its market share though Dino Adriano, who was yesterday appointed group chief executive, admitted that overtaking Tesco as Britain's

bury's has increased its market share from 12.5 per cent to 12.7 per cent, according to the Institute of Grocery Distribution, while Tesco's share is 15.6 per cent. Industry estimates put Asda in third place with 7.6 per

cent, slightly ahead of Safeway (7.5 per cent). Sainsbury's figures were welcomed in the City. Mike Dennis, food retail analyst at Socicte Generale Strauss Turnbull, said: "They've got the right management together and the right retail philosophy and they are starting to take the lead on some initiatives. That is the right recipe to move this husiness ahead. But they will have to work hard to pull it off."

The fine-tuning of the boardroom structure will see Mr Adriano move to become group chief executive in March though he will still be responsible for the UK supermarkets husiness. David Bremner, the head of the US and DIY operations, is promoted to deputy chief executive. Lord Sainsbury will remain executive chairman and said the changes were not a prelude

to him moving to a non-executive role. In a move directly opposite from Tesco's strategy. Sainsbury's plans to reduce the emphasis on non-food lines. Clothing ranges will be removed from its standard-sized stores. The larger SavaCentre stores will stock a more focused clothing range but will

stop selling many non-food lines such as televisions, lighting, DIY and possibly music and videos. "Our heritage is about food and that's what we want to concentrate on," said Mr Bremner.

A store opening and expansion programme will see Sainshury's create 6,500 new jobs over the next year. Sainsbury's confirmed it had employed brand consultants to review its corporate image and admitted that its trademark orange logo may be

In America, the group's Shaw's subsidiary has been affected by a strike which cost \$8m. The company said it did not intend to buy the remainder of the Giant su-

permarket group in the US, in which it holds a significant stake, until it had improved Sbaw's performance.

Sainsbury's Bank made a loss of £10.8m in the first half and its projected losses for the full year are £15m-£20m. But the bank has deposits of £1bn, is opening 12,000 new accounts per week and should move into profit towards the end of next year, Lord Sainsbury said.

Group sales increased by 9 per cent to £8.2bn in the six months to 20 September. The dividend was increased by 7 per cent to 3.75p. Sainsbury's shares rose 26p to

Investment column, page 24

Shares continue to rally as US Fed chairman speaks

The stock market recovery on both sides of the Atlantic continued yesterday after investors took comments from Alan Greenspan, Federal Reserve chairman, in their stride. Tom Stevenson and Mary Dejevsky report on the calming of the

Shares in London and New York behaved yesterday as if Monday's meltdown had never happened, with the FTSE 100 index posting a 116.4 point gain to close at 4871.8 and the Dow Jones rising more than 120 points at ooe stage as investors focused on soothing comments from the Fed chairman.

European bourses took heart from Wall Street's rebound to Tuesday and the recordbreaking rises in the Far East, rose across the board. In France the rise in the CAC 40 index was over 6 per cent while German shares rose almost 4.5 per cent.

STOCK MARKETS

Dow Jones

FTSE 100

cent since 3 October, was worth 2.5 per cent as advancing shares outweighed decliners by 77 to 22.

Less than 24 hours after Wall Street led the rebound from Monday's fall, the chairman of the US Federal Reserve said the decline in share prices could have long-term beneficial effects by reducing markets to a more sustainable level.

In scheduled testimony to the Congressional Joint Economic Committee in Washington yesterday, Mr Greenspan said: "Provided the decline in financial markets does not cumulate, it is quite conceivable that a few years hence we will look hack at this episode, as we now look back at the 1987 crash, as a salutary event in terms of its implication for the тасто-есопоту."

Mr Greenspan stressed that despite Tuesday's record rise in share prices, there had still been a net fall, but said this was especially Hong Kong. Shares no bad thing. Consumers, he ensure that the very low unsaid, felt "less wealthy than they did a week ago"; this would "tend to dampen economic activity" and that in turn "should The rise in the FTSE 100, help to proloog our six-and-a-

52 wt low Yield(%)

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which had shed almost 11 per half year husiness expansion".

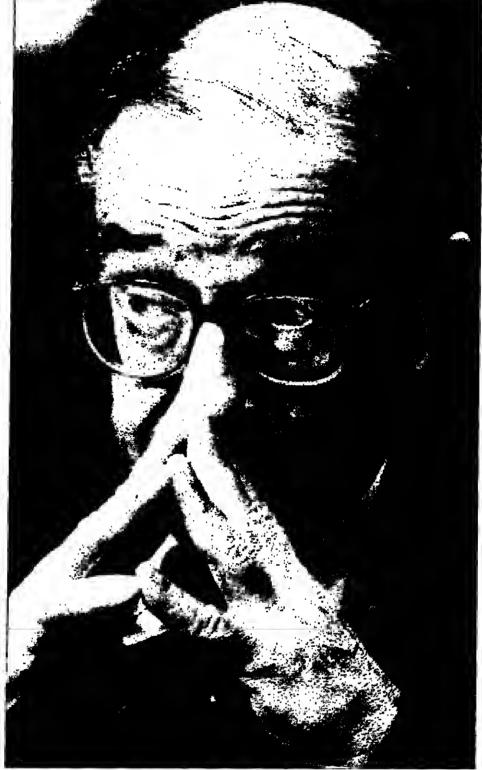
The Fed chairman has long warned of the risk of inflation -most famously in his reference to the "irrational exuberance" of US investors earlier in the year - and warned again yesterday against thinking inflation had been finally banished.

Mr Greenspan's testimony, which was postponed for a day after Monday's market turmoil. had been keenly awaited. But it had little immediate effect on share prices, which continued their steady rise through the morning. The markets appeared more worried by the announcement from Iraq that it was expelling all US personnel working for international organisations in the country.

Mr Greenspan was upbeat about the overall state of the US economy, speaking of its "continued impressive performance in recent months". However, he also said that the Federal Reserve had to remain vigilant to employment rate in the US did oot precipitate inflation.

Wall Street analysis concurred that the decline in share prices and Mr Greenspan's response made a rise in US interest rates less likely when the Federal Reserve next meets to consider the question on 12 November, They said the markets had accomplished the economic slowdown that an increase in rates would have aimed to achieve.

Despite the apparent return of confidence, analysts warned shock waves would continue to affect stock markets. "One has to regard this recovery as extremely fragile" said one trader in London. "It is quite probable we are going to see more volatility, but at least we seem to have broken the cycle of markets just going down and down each day." Outlook, page 25



Investors around the world were waiting for Alan Greenspan's testimony to Congress yesterday. But his speech had little immediate effect on share prices Photograph: Reuter

Hang Seng gains 19% as Hong Kong takes comfort from Wall St

Like manna from heaven, Tuesday's record rise on Wall Street brought instant relief to Asian markets yesterday. Nowhere was this seen more spectacularly than on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, which had witnessed a record fall on Tuesday, followed yesterday by a record rise of 1,705 points, a gain of almost 19 per cent, Stephen Vines in Hong Kong reports.

The Australian market also saw a record rise of more than 6 per cent, with volumes so high that trading had to be suspended early to ensure that settlements could be made. Neighbouring New Zealand, which took the brunt of the negative reaction to Wall Street's massive fall on Monday, was second only to Hoog Koog in beoefiting from the turnsround. The Wellington market closed up nearly 10 per cent, another record.

Elsewhere in Asia, gains were in a range of 2 to 3 per cent, with Tokyo near the top, and the battered Thai and Taiwan markets still unable to advance.

The real action, however, was in Hong Kong where some traders were talking about the unusual phenomenon of "panic buying". The buying spree gathered pace throughout the day, focusing on blue chips and

China-associated stocks. By far the biggest volume of trade was in the shares of HSBC Holdings, which runs Midland and Hongkong Banks. HSBC

shares worth HK\$5.3bn (£414m) changed hands, leaving the stock 21 per cent up on the day.

The big question is whether vesterday's spectacular rise is anything more than a flash in the pan which will give way to similarly spectacular reverses.

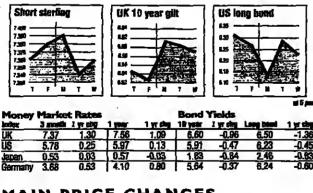
Howard Georges, the vicechairman of the South China Brokerage, said: "I think we're over the worst, harring accidents." Jake van der Kamp, investment strategist at ABN Amro Hoare Govett, was prepared to stick his neck out further, declaring: "I'm prepared to say it's over." He believes that attacks on the Hong Kong dollar by hedge fund managers have been beaten off and there is no reason for anything other than "continued strength in the Hong Kong market".

This does not mean there will not be further turbulence, nor is it likely that a recordbreaking market rise will not produce profit taking. "It's a brave person that says this rally is heading the market in a different direction," said David Dodwell, a director at Jardine Fleming, who added: "We're still in a volatile market. A lot can happen."

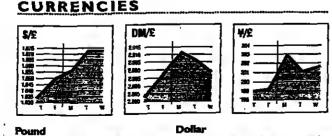
But there was a widespread view that the carnage, which knocked one-third off the value of the market in less than a month, has come to a halt.

All eyes remain firmly fixed on Wall Street. As Asian markets closed, market participants were waiting up to follow the testimony of Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the US Federal Reserve. A hint of higher interest rates or a suggestion the markets remain overheated could rapidly turn yesterday's bull spurt on its heels.

INTEREST RATES



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Strer (\$)	4.79	-0.03	4.89	Base F		7.00	5.75	
www.bloomberg.com source: Bloomberg					berg			

Pilkington to cut 6,000 jobs in bid to save £200m

Pilkington, the troubled glass manufacturer, yesterday announced a £200m restructuring programme and the loss of up to 6,000 jobs. Andrew Yates finds that Pilkington was forced to make the move to survive in an increasingly competitive glass market and more jobs are likely

More than 1,000 jobs are to be lost in Pilkington's glass operations in the UK as part of rad-

ical restructuring that will see attempt to cut costs had not tion, with 20 different compa- in Europe. More than 30 busiup to 6,000 jobs go around the nearly been enough and that the

The move is designed to cut overheads by £100m, or 10 per cent, by April next year and £200m within 18 months. However, the revamp will cost Pilkington £200m, including a £120m cash payment to cover redundancies.

The move comes just 18 months after the former chief executive, Roger Leverton, announced a £155m restructuring plan with the loss of 1,900 jobs. However, Paulo Scaroni, who replaced Mr Leverton last May in a boardroom shake-up, admitted the company's previous group still remained uncompetitive compared to its leading

Asked why the group had not moved faster, sooner, Sir Nigel Rudd, Pilkington's chairman, said: "It was the culture of the husiness and the way it was run. The company has changed massively since Paulo Scaroni has acrived."

Sir Nigel is believed to have been instrumental in ousting Mr Leverton and appointing Mr Scaroni as his replacement.

Mr Scaroni said: "This used to be a federation of companies rather than a global organisa-

nies with different logos. We are putting the 'P' back in Pilkington with one name and hrand around the world."

He pointed out that the old Pilkington had no fewer than 10 different corporate magazines and little co-operation between different executives in different countries.

Mr Scaroni has reversed Mr Leverton's policy of expanding into downstream operations, including glass cutting and double-glazing products. This business lost more than

£30m last year and Pilkington is closing down or selling 60 of nesses in the UK will go in an attempt to eradicate losses.

mitted it would take at least two years to become as productive as its leading competitors. And the current restructur-

ing programme is only the first stage in an aggressive plan to cut

Pilkington plans to put aside another £20m each year to cover future redundancies. which implies it could reduce its head count by as much as 800 every 12 months.

Mr Scaroni added: "I am optimistic for the future. We are a market leader in a growing

Our success is compulsory."

Analysts believe Pilkington's Even then, Pilkington adcost-saving plan has not come a moment too soon. The group announced a 12 per cent fall in operating profits to £82m for the six months to September.

Pilkington was hit by an alarming slump in the price of the glass it supplies to the car market in the US. Profits in the US fell to £20m (£37m).

One analyst said: "Pilkington is not over the worst yet. It still has to contend with the ups and downs of the world-wide glass market, which has proved to be very volatile in the past."

Outlook page 25

Replacement name for GMG Brands meets with scorn in the City

After months of intensive research and at a cost of £250,000. Grand Metropolitan and Guinness have come up with Diageo as the new name for their £24bn merged food and drinks conglomerate.

However Andrew Yates reports that the title has been met with widespread scepticism in the City.

Tony Greener and George Bull, respectively the chairmen of Guinness and GrandMet, said in a joint statement: "Every day, all around the world, millions of people enjoy our brands, Based on the Latin word for 'day' and the Greek word for 'world', Diageo captures what this company is all about."

A Guinness spokesman said Wolff Olins had talked to people in 70 countries around the world to come up with the name. The old name, GMG Brands, was "clearly unworkable"and had been panned in

than forward. "At least this new name means something rather than some of the other names I could mention."

But the new name for what will become the biggest spirits company in the world has failed to capture the imagination of City observers. One analyst said: "GMG Brands was bad enough but this is ridiculous. What on earth does it mean and how the hell do you pronounce it?"

One analyst said the name sounded more like a foreign make of car than a serious

other thought it was inspired by England's new Rugby captain, Lawrence Dallaglio, or the controversial Argentinean footballer, Diego Maradona.

The new name is believed to have cost Guinness and Grand-Met £250,000. They employed Wolff Olins, the advertising and design specialists, last May, soon after announcing the merger, to come up with a new image for the new group. Diageo will operate in more than 200 countries around the world.

The new name should also

the City for looking back rather food and drinks business. An- be displayed outside the group's main office and on all its stationery and annual report from the start of next year. However, Diageo will have to be ratified by shareholders when they vote on the merger at a meeting scheduled for the end of next month. GrandMet and Guinness do not plan to change any drinks brand names.

The US Federal Trade Commission is likely to ratify the merger within the next few weeks, subject to the disposal of some drinks brands.



'Not everything in black Outlook page 25 and white makes sense'

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY SAMEENA AHMAD

How to survive a correction

What stocks should risk-averse investors be buying now? Assuming they want to stay in equities at all, a natural shift would be from cyclicals to defensive, high-yielding shares. But this strategy is more appropriate for a

The UK economy is nowhere near a slump. Instead, what we seem to be seeing is a correction to overheated share prices. So probably the best advice, dull though it may be, is to sit tight and dn nothing.

However, for those whn feel the need to rejig their portfolio, moving to shares which are less vulatile than the market and which have a pure domestic

focus is a sound general strategy.

Looking in detail, here some broad recommendations to surviving a stock market correction.

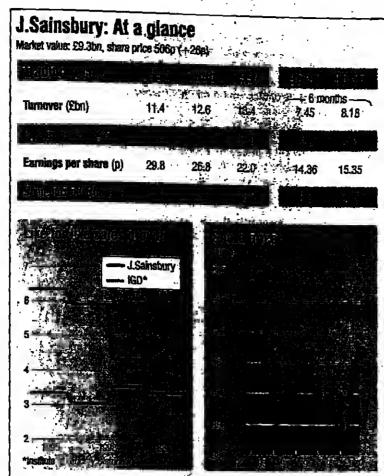
1. Avoid companies with exposure to Asia. Unlike the UK and US, which are enjoying booming economies, Asia is going through a real downturn. Growth across the region is slowing and demand is weakening. That threatens tn affect the financial performance of companies with significant Asian interests.

Those to be wary of include Asianfocused banks like HSBC and Standard Chartered. Also risky are stocks with vided that interest rates and inflation significant Asian interests such as Caremain low. There are no signs of ble & Wireless, Unilever and Reckitt & Colman and big exporters to the re- price falls may well take the froth off gion. Rulls-Royce is one of the most consumer spending levels. exposed engineers to Asia.

With world trade likely to be affected by the Asian slump, safety highly cash generative and are in fastseekers might think twice about airlines and hotel companies and UK luxury brand retailers which depend on Far by 15 per cent in recent times and Eastern tourism - Hamleys, Liberty Ahbey looks like one of the cheapest and Royal Doulton for example.

2. Stay with quality companies focused nn the UK domestic market, bet as long as interest rates remain Looking at market sectors, good bets low. At the moment rents are soaring include banking, property, food re- to levels not seen since the late 1980s, tailers, general retailers, leisure companies and hig pharmaceuticals.

The banking sector is being helped by resilient bond yields, a consequence of volatile share prices. Dumestic Land Securities, the sector beliwether banks are safe, defensive stocks pro- with around a quarter of the UK



inflation picking up and recent share

Within the sector Abbey National and Halifax look attractive. Both are growing markets like consumer finance. Halifax has underperformed hanks in the sector.

The property sector is also a safe without the development frenzy, and property yields at 7.4 per cent remain higher than gilt yields. Two of the safest and best-managed players are quoted property sector, and British and, with a first rate asset base.

Domestic food retailers like Asda. which has no overseas exposure, and Tesco look attractive. So do select domestic retailers like Dixons, which has growth markets and a cheap rating.

Pharmaceuticals too lnok good value, driven by inelastic growth in de- At the group's wholly owned Shaw's mand for medicines. All three hig subsidiary in Connecticut, a strike cost pharma groups in the UK are more lowly rated than their US counterparts.

In the end the key to investment success, particularly in volatile times, buying the rest of Giant, where profis huying good quality companies and its were also affected by strikes.

fundamentals - proven management, steady earnings growth and, vitally, strong cash flow. When markets look invincible these are too easily to sustain. Too high to chase at these

Interest Free 200+

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PressWorks, DesignWorks, Homewise, SmartPics, Lotus E-Mail and more!

All Standard Features Windows 95 with

All Standard Fedbures Windows IS will manual C.O., 105 keyboard. 1.44kb keppy drive, Pa/2 mouse, advanced motherboard with all standard ports and year 2000 compli-art BIOS, 90 manual video uses guide, recov-ery diek, full support, 14 day money bush guesantes (excluding carriage) and 12 months wemonly extendible to 5 years.

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Sainsbury makes steady progress

For a company that has taken a pounding over the past couple of years, things have finally started going right for Sainsbury. The shares, recommended here at 349p in May, have been making heady progress and yesterday andged through the 500p barrier for the first time in four years, finishing 26p ahead at 506p yesterday. They have now risen by more than 60 per cent since their 309p low after the group's profits warning at the beginning of the year.

That fall was overdone but Sainsbury has still done well to rebuild faith in a company whose brand is still regarded as the strongest of the supermarkets. Yesterday's better-thanexpected half-year profits of £411m have further helped sentiment.

Product availability has improved considerably. A like-for-like sales increase of 4.2 per cent in the half year and 5 per cent in the six weeks since are encouraging, even though they have been helped by the Reward card loyalty scheme and longer opening hours. Margins have been held at 6.4 per cent.

Sainsbury is no longer striving to overtake Tesco as Britain's largest grocer, but its market share grew from 12.5 to 12.7 per cent in the year with the extra sales thought to be coming from the independent sector and the Co-op. The myth that all four majors cannot expand simultaneously, has, for now, been exploded.

In SavaCentre, the plan to concentrate on food ranges rather than pegood cash flow, a strong position in ripherals such as televisions and videos looks like a sensible approach.

The US, however, needs attention. \$8m and profits fell 21 per cent. The City will be looking for Sainsbury to sort this business out first before it considers

On forecast profits of £735m this That means a renewed focus on year, Sainsbury shares trade on a forward rating of 19, falling to 17. That is a premium to the market which management will have deliver on its targets levels but a solid hold.

Body Shop disappointed with 'lacklustre' retail sales

Body Shop International, the environmentally friendly cosmetics retaller, is still struggling to revitalise sales and profits. As Nigel Cope, City Correspondent, reports, the US and Japan are the main markets giving grounds for concern.

And the turmoil in the financial markets of Thailand and Malaysia is beginning to affect trade there too.

Reporting a 4 per cent in-crease in first-half profits to £12.3m, the company said it was dissatisfied with a "lacklustre" performance. Stripping out new store openings, group sales fell by 1 per cent on the same period last year. This included 5 per cent falls in both the United States and Japan.

Gordon Roddick, chairman. said: "Retail sales around the world are not as strong as they should be and we are not satistied with this somewhat lackinstre performance."

Some analysts criticised the group's plans to persist with its store opening programme which will see another 50 outless open in the second half, taking the total to 1,580 in 47 countries. However, the company justified its strategy, saying the programme enabled it to expand in new areas and that its franchise system prevented its operations across the world from becoming unwieldy.

In America, where Body Shop has been affected by copycat operators and a cutthroat retail environment, the group made an operating loss of £2.9m in the first half.

The company has been taking over franchise stores which have been doing poorly and at the end of August owned 181

There are plans to huy up to 30 more in the second half. Body Shop said it was facing heavy discounting from discounters in shopping mails.

Sales in Asia were badly affected by a weak performance

in Japan, where stores sales fell by 16 per cent. The company blamed a difficult retail environment, a low level of new product launches and increased

local competition.
It also said it had suffered some problems with products being nut of stock and cannibalisation from existing stores. Body Shop's head franchisee in Japan is now working to improve training, renovate some larger stores and develop cus tomer loyalty programmes.

In the UK, same-store sales were 2 per cent ahead. The Body Shop direct operation, which sell goods through consultants at parties, has increased the number of consultants from 1,000 to 1,600 in the year to August.

A new store design, which has been tested in three outlets, will be extended to additional locations before a roll-out across all 257 UK shops.

Group sales in the six months to 30 August were 5 per cent up to £282m. The dividend was raised by 20 per cent to 1.3p. Body Shop shares rose 9p

Laporte ends restructuring with £20m sales

Laporte, the speciality chemicals group, yesterday annuunced it was to take a £46m exceptional charge and cut 150 jnbs by selling one of its businesses and closing another down. The move signalled the end of the company's two-year reorganisation.

The company has sold part nf its pet litter division to Volclay, a division of American Colloids, and its related Spanish business has been bought by a Spanish investment company. The two disposals raised £20m.

Laporte is to close down the remainder of its pet litter husiness, along with its activated earth operations, which produce a substance used to purify cooking oil.

The company said that it was the end of the restructuring by Jim Leng, chief executive. However, Laporte would contime to review its operations.

Mr Leng said: "This is consistent with the group strategy we have been pursuing over the last two years. In future, this division will be concentrating on its higher added-value speciality products which have leading market positions."

Laporte's pet litter division has been hit by rising raw material costs, the string pound, and increased competition. Its activated earth business has

also been affected by sterling. Yesterday's move fullows last year's disposal of the US pet litter operations and the activated earth businesses in Peru, sh **G** ar bi

Brazil and Malaysia. Since his appointment as chief executive two years, Mr Leng has closed or sold over a third of the company, to focus nn high-margin speciality chemicals. During that period, Laporte has cut thousands of jubs and slashed the number of manufacturing sites 45 per cent.

In the six months to the earl of June, Laporte's pre-tax profits before exceptionals rose 11 per cent to £66.7m. The shares closed up 5p yesterday at 671p.

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Asda dumps plans to cut price of children's medicines

Asda Group was yesterday forced to abandon its price cuts announced nn Monday on child healthcare products by the threat of legal action from the manufacturers concerned, a company spokesman said. The supermarkets group had intended in cut prices by 25 per cent on 10 products, including Tiryliz cough syrup made by Novartis, Super led chewable vitamins from Ferrosan, Woodward's Gripe Water from Seton Healthcare, Dentrinox cradle cap shampoo from Dendron and Sudocrem nappy rash cream made by Pharmax.

The Asda spokesman said five of the seven manufacturers concerned - Novartis, Pharmax, Dendron, Procter & Gamhle and Setnn Healthcare - threatened to seek injunctions to block the move. They threatened to seek an injunction to force us to restore the prices and we gave an undertaking in the court that we would do so," he said. Asda would continue to campaign for the abolition of resale price maintenance agreements that allowed manufacturers to set sale prices, the spokesman said.

US firm buys Visual Action

Caribiner International, a US provider of meetings, events and training programmes, will acquire Visual Action Holdings of the UK for £148m cash to boost its international presence. New York-based Caribiner will pay 295p per share, nr a 49.4 per cent premium over Tuesday's closing price for Visual Action, an international hire company that provides equipment to the television and film industries.

Tomkins tops high-pay list

Ian Duncan of Tomkins is the highest-paid finance director of a FTSE 100 company, with a package worth £912,000 last year, according to research published today by Financial Director magazine. The lowest paid is Thames Water's David Luffrin, who earned £184,000. The survey also indicates that KPMG and Ernst & Young, the Big Six accountancy firms that last week announced merger plans, earned £88.6m from auditing FTSE 100 companies - just ahead of the £88.3m earned by Coopers & Lybrand and Price Waterhnuse, which have also annunced merger plans.

Depreciation rules change

The Accounting Standards Board is braced for opposition from brewers and hotel groups over its plans to tighten up the rules on how they and other companies account for the value of their properties. Sir David Tweedie, chairman of the ASB, said the proposals in FRED17 Measurement of Tangible Fixed Assets, published today, were important because they aimed to plug a number of loopholes and to increase consistency in the approach to depreciation. He said the proposed revaluation requirements, in particular, "should put an end to the present absurd situation where valuations in accounts that have become totally meaningless are nevertheless allowed to remain in those accounts unchanged".

Tamaris signs Far East deal

Tamaris, the care homes company, has entered into a alliance with Wicky Suyanto, who has business interests in healthcare in Singapore and Malaysia. The alliance will involve the subscription for shares in Tamaris by Roseview International, a holding company owned by Mr Suyanto. Tamaris also plans to establish a new joint venture company in the Far East called Tamaris International.

Tobacco litigation knocks BAT results

Increased provisions for pensions mis-selling and **US** tobacco litigation knocked BAT Industries' third-quarter results, released yesterday. Leg Poterson assesses the prospects for the soonto-be demerged tobacco and financial services conglomerate.

David Alivey, finance director nf BAT, said profits had been affected by a significant number of one-off items. BAT earned £1.73bn of pre-tax profits in the first nine months of 1997 - a fall of 14 per cent on 1996's figures.

However, he said that without nne-off costs "the business was marginally ahead". The costs included an £85m increase in the provision by Allied Dunbar, the company's UK insurance husiness, for pension mis-selling as well as £114m of litigation settlements in Florida and Mississippi in the US.

BAT's tnhacco business, which is due to be separated from its financial services stablemate, has had a tricky nine months' trading. Falling profits in the US were due not only to tobacco litigation but also to heavy discounting by the rival Phillip Morris, which owns the Mariboro brand leader is the US market. Far Eastern activities were hit by "political and currency uncertainties", said Mr Allvey.

One analyst remarked yesterday: "One of BAT's key

challenges will be translating itposition in key emerging markets into revenues and profits,"

US tubacco litigation costs look set in plague BAT for at least the next year. Yesterday's figures did unt include provisions for the recent Broin case. a class action brought by airline flight attendants who claimed they had suffered from passive smoking at work.

BAT's share of the Broin settlement comes to \$57m (£34m), and further settlements may have to be made in the next few months.

Three states - Texas, Minnesota and Ohin - are due to hring cases against the tobacco industry before next summer. Martin Broughton, BAT's chief executive, admitted yesterday that Minnesota's case, due to be heard January, was critical.

Prospects for BAT's financial services husiness, which includes UK insurers Ailied Dunbar and Eagle Star as well as the US insurer, Farmers. looked hrighter.

Allied Dunbar, he added. appeared to be on target in dealing with pensions misselling cases - settlements have been accepted by 67 per center priority cases. Mr Broughton reckoned that no further increase in mis-selling provisions would be likely, unless there were further changes in regulation.

Analysts also predict that BAT's financial services will benefit from the merger with Zurich Insurance.

Shares in BAT closed at 540p, up 17p in a generally buoyant market.

	Y RESU	**********		
	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	D
M (S mile)	17.7bn (18.1bn)	1.73bn (2.02bn)		Dividend
Budy Stop (1)	123m (117m)		32.5¢ (38.6p)	NR (+)
Chesterton Initial (F)		12.3m (11.8m)	3.8p (3.6p)	1.8p (1.5p)
Concernent Tech (1)	152m (89.8m)	-7.0m (2.4m)	-7.8p (1.7p)	1p (2p)
	1.5m (3.7m)	0.56m (0.69m)	-0.08p (ell)	
Dalicello (F)	3.2m (3.9m)	-0.03m (-0.15m)		0.1p
Pikingiça (1)	1.4bn (1.5bn)		-0.69p (-3.12p)	64 (-)
Calesbury (1)	8.2bn (7.5bn)	32.0m (75.0m)	ni (3.2p)	11.75p (1.75
Sleepy Kids (1)		414m (393m)	15.35p (14.36p)	2 7
F) - Final (I) - Interi	0.26m (0.95m)	-0.17m (0.33m)	-0.37p (0.72p)	*1.0b (8.9b)



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OUTLOOK ON THE FED CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH. THE NEW NAME FOR GMG BRANDS AND CUTS AT PILKINGTON

Why won't Greenspan say what he means?

Stock market investors hoping for a little guidance during these turbulent times from Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, would have been sadly disappointed by his testimony yesterday to the Joint Economic Committee of the US Congress. Mr Greenspan promised much in opening his address by saying he would devote the bulk of it to the present turbulence in financial markets.

He then went on to give a worthwhile, though by now somewhat familiar, analysis of the crisis in South -east Asia. There was diddly squat on whether he thought the little correction on Wall Street seen so far enough 10 address the irrational exuberance in financial markets that he talked about in the same place a year ago, All he would say is that it is conceivable we would look back on recent events rather in the way we do at 1987, as "a salutary lesson in terms of its implications for the macroeconomy".

What he actually meant by this is far from clear, but as is often the case with Mr Greenspan, he probably intended it that way. Does he mean that inflationary pressures are indeed building in the US economy and that the markets have correctly anticipated this? Or does he simply mean that having lost a hit of its value, the market will now carry on upwards as it did in the late Eightles? Mr Greenspan knew that he had it in his gift to calm financial markets and he plainly would not have been forgiven had he done anything else. Nor does Mr Greenspan want a crash, with its damaging economic accourrements.

But does he really believe Wall Street is now fairly valued? That seems doubtful. Apparently, there were scenes of mayhem and violence outside some US share shops in the wake of President Bill Clinton's statement on the stock markets last Tuesday. Small investors fought each other to jump the queue and get their huy orders in as his soothing remarks were broadcast across the airwaves. Any fall is a buying opportunity, the argument goes. What that tells you is that Wall Street is still in the grip of speculative fever. The gyrations of the market yesterday is as clear an indication as they come of the dangers of this

The huying at the moment is coming from the American masses, from small investors. The hig professional players are either staying on the sidelines or selling. This does not look like a formula for a sharp rebound. If our own market here in London still looks reasonable value compared with Wall Street, you only have to remember the way the Asian markets managed to trash the mighty Dow tu realise that we can never be immune here in Europe to the speculative excess taking place on the other side of the Atlantic. Fasten your seathelts.

A linguistic abomination

Guinness and GrandMet have had their revenge on Bernard Arnault. Forced into a shahby commercial compromise with

their troublesome Gallic shareholder, they have at least inflicted on him a brutal philological assault.

Being a Frenchman, Mr Arnault cares about the purity of words. He won't mourn the passing of GMG Brands, a piti-ful example of the bland acronyms that have replaced the stock market's most illustrious monikers. But he will shudder at the linguistic abomination it is to be replaced by - Diageo - and the £250,000 cost

Mixing and matching the Latin word for "day" with the Greek for "world" is not the only example in English of an unnatural neologism. You only have to switch on your television set (Gk. tele, Lat. vision) to hear a constant stream of such amoral (Gk. privative prefix, Latin ethics)

Even so. Mr Arnault's sensitivities will be bruised by the plain ugliness of the word. Perhaps we would be gullible (Eng. gull, Latin suffix) to believe an enormous burcaucracy | Fr. burcau, Gk. kratia) could do any better. GMG's linguistic harbarism is doomed to failure. Words live if euphonious and appropriate. We may du the Hoovering but what hope slipping out for a swift Diageo? To be fair, dropping the Guinness hrand name in favour uf Diageo is not proposed. But what, it may be asked, is wrong with calling the holding company Guinness as well, a more internationally recognised name than Diageo is ever likely to be.

British companies have a sad talent for

plicity or globalisation or some other nonsense, and the trend appears to be accelerating.

Remember the reliable-sounding Tom Cowie? Because one of the company's contipental offshoots thought that sounded too bovine, the operator of the number 4 to Waterloo is now known tritely as Arriva. What would old Montague Burton have made of the wholly inappropriately, Arcadia? Saatchi & Saatchi - now that had some style - is Cordiant. Harrisons & Crosfield, a nice British sounding name if ever there was one, is to become Elementis for goodness sake.

It was not always this way. Who could forget the marvellous Isle of Wight and South of England Royal Mail and Steam Packet Company, or believe Electrical and Musical Industries was not lessened by its reincarnation as EMI. Three cheers for Peninsular & Oriental, yah boo to BT. Tony Greener and George Bull seem honourable men. They should rethink this atrocity or go the whole hog and call the damn thing Maradona.

Pilkington chief had to get tough

Pilkington has been all at sea for more than 10 years now. Restructuring has followed restructuring with little success. Over the last two years, the company's share price has collapsed. Too slow to cut costs, this family-run business has lost its compet-

linguistic vandalism in the name of sim- itive edge as hungry rivals have stepped up their own restructuring programmes and moved ahead of the game.

Now things are changing. The last family board member, Anthony Pilkingion. left in 1995. Unfortunately, Pilkington's difficulties were so deep rooted it has taken Sir Nigel Rudd, the outsider bought in to revive Pilkington in the face of growing disenchantment from shareholders, the best part uf two years to stamp his authority on the group. Roger Leverton, the former chief executive, ultimately paid the penalty for doing too little, too late, and as ousted last May.

Sir Nigel's hand-picked successor. Paulo Scaroni, is a bruiser with a reputation as a vicious cost cutter. In a sense Pilkington is his dream company. There's plenty of fat to go for. Mr Scaroni has duly really wielded the axe and is now in the process uf cutting 6,000 jobs, closing down 60 loss making husinesses across Europe and revamping the group's overseas activities. If this seems a harsh response, Mr Scaroni may be saving the company with his brutality.

In truth Mr Scaroni had little choice hut to get tuugh. Pilkington has long had the wurst productivity among the world's glass making giants. Without resorting to strong measures, it would have struggled to survive in its present form. Up until now Pilkingtun has always underestimated the size of the restructuring needed to turn the group around. The only real question is whether Mr Scaroni has cut deep

British Gas to cut domestic power bills by 15 per cent

British Gas threw down the gauntlet to the electricity co.nganies yesterday with plans to slash dome '.a power bills by 15 per cent next year when the market epens to competition. Chris Godsmark, Business Correspondent, examines a move which could fuel the pressure for consolidation in the

Centrica, the demerged British Gas supply business, has already negun hombarding consumers with a multi-million pound press and television adertising campaign to prepare for its assault on the domestic electricity market, but vesterday it gave the first indication of the scale of its planned price cuts. It said discounts for households that switched from their regional electricity company (REC) would be 15 per cent, on average, below current prices.

power industry.

Competition is being introduced to 20 million electricity consumers over six months, kicking off in April with Canterbury, Chester, Hull and Norwich. Only the four RECs that are ready to take part in the first phase - Eastern, Manweb, Seeboard and Yorkshire - will initially be able to poach customers in each other's markets.

Though British Gas declined to give further details of its tariffs, which are likely to vary, the headline cut would knock £40 off an average £270 power bili. The company aims to sign up some 2 million homes as electricity customers in the first two years.

The discount is more than double the 6 per cent average reduction most RECs are due to make next spring under a new price formula set recently by Professor Stepheo Littlechild, the industry regulator. The price cap has aroused strong protests from some RECs, which argue that meagre profit margins on their power supply husinesses could be wiped out. Electricity supply typically accounts for just 6

per cent of bills, with more than half going towards generation costs and 33 per cent in distribution and transmission costs. Mike Alexander, managing

director of British Gas Trading, insisted he was not planning to lose money in the electricity market, though he admitted that the start-up costs for the first few customers would be "horrendous". He said: "I'm expecting to

make a profit on it hut not a huge profit. This is an entry husiness. The costs will be sustainable when we have a reasonable number of customers." Mr Alexander said the

higgest savings over the RECs were from cheaper generation contracts and more efficient administration and hilling systems. British Gas has huilt a separate electricity hilling computer using technology developed by Seeboard and Anderson Consulting.

The company declined to reveal whether generation contracts had been signed yet, or which generating companies were involved. But Mr Alexander said: "We are certainly



Bright future: Roy Gardiner, chief executive of Centrica, is behind domestic price cuts

Photograph: Rui Xavier

on average than RECs." British Gas is the only company outside the electricity industry so far to set up a rival supply op-

huying our electricity cheaper eration. The prospect of little or no profits in the competitive energy markets has already deterred the hig supermarket chains and oil companies.

British Gas price cuts is likely to increase the pressure from RECs to be allowed to merge their supply husiness. Though

However the scale of the some of the more determined power suppliers are likely to match the British Gas tariff, other RECs could see their customer bases eroded swiftly.

MPs want to approve MPC members

The Commons Treasury Select Committee yesterday demanded the right to yet members of the Bank of England's **Monetary Policy** Committee (MPC). which was given the power to set interest rates in May. Tom Stevenson, Financial Editor, looks at the committee's first report of the new parliamentary session.

The cross-party Treasury Select Committee admitted yesterday its demand to approve candidates for the newly formed MPC was "controversial" but said it was necessary to ensure the newly independent Bank of England was answerable and accountable.

Giles Radice, the Labour MP who chairs the committee, said be wanted the Government to use the Bank of England Bill, which was published on Tuesday, to include the vetting power. He said the screening would not follow the American model of inquiring into people's backgrounds and sexual history.

The committee suggested the new act should give it 30 days after a pomination was made to object. If it did so, it would make a report to the Commons, saying why it did not believe the candidate met the desired criteria of "competence and personal independence" and would recommend the appointment should not be confirmed.

The committee said that even if the act did not give it the power it was asking for, it intended to institute hearings about the composition of the MPC. The report, published yesterday, also said the terms of office of the three non-Bank members of the MPC should be increased to at least five years from the current three to avoid political influence - Chris Godsmark over the appointments.

Life insurers add to stakeholder pension debate Oftel clears way for BIB to

life insurers yesterday joined in the increasingly intense debate over Labour's proposals for so-called stakeholder pensions, calling for cheap retirement funds, investing in equities, to be set up to run alongside the existing basic state pension. Clifford Germon examines the proposals.

Legal & General, Pearl and West Life released their submissions to the Department of Social Security (DSS), which is co-ordinating the Governsions system. The documents are part of a flood of more than 1,000 separate submissions that have have reached the DSS, a spokesman said yesterday.

The insurers' documents form part of the Government's decision to consult on the future of state pensions.

Among insurers' proposals, geared to winning a slice of the many billions of pounds they hope will be funnelled into the new-style schemes, is the scrapping of Serps, the state earnings related pension scheme. Serps would be replaced by stakeholder pensions, to which insurers think employers should be made to contribute.

Contributions should be invested initially in shares (Autif

Plany of the UK's biggest ment review of the UK pen-favours unit trusts), switching to fixed interest securities as retirement approaches. All pension funds should offer life insurance in the event of death before retirement, and both widows and widowers should

> Among the specific proposals from insurers are suggestions that charges should be fixed regardless of the size of contrihutions, with no initial charges, no penalties for stopping and starting contributions, no transfer costs, exit charges and a single annual management charge, ideally no more than 1 per cent of contributions. Approved pensions would receive a Government "kitemark", according

to Nat West Life. Individuals could choose their own retirement date at any time after reaching 60 (with some pension providers pitching for a retirement age as early as 50) or when they have earned a minimum entitlement (say 50 per cent above the income support level). The funds funds would then be used to buy an annuity, pegged to rise in line

with inflation. Tax-free lump sums would only be allowed in order to buy a policy to provide long-term care. Funds should be transferable and members should be issued with pass-books which could be regularly updated with current values of individual pensions.

Trade unions and affinity groups would become "gateways" to the new stakeholder pension system, using their bulk purchasing power to sponsor low-cost managed pensions to their members.

Differences emerged yesterday as to the minimum amount of contributions, with Pearl advocating £100 a month, Legal & General prefers £2,000 a year, and the Association of British Insurers opting for £3,000 a year.

The existing system of personal pensions should continue unchanged, to cater for sophisticated investors who want de-luxe pensions and are willing to pay for them.

The Treasury would like to end tax relief oo contributions and have pensions paid tax-free. Legal & General wants a new rate of relief at 33.3 per cent on stakeholder contributions.

move into digital venture

British Telecom and British Sky Broadcasting were given a clear signal yesterday by Don Cruickshank, the telecommunications regulator, that their joint move into digital satellite broadcasting would not face opposition from UK competition watchdogs.

British Interactive Broadcasting, the digital satellite husiness in which both BT and BSkyB have 32.5 per cent stakes, will offer home banking, shopping and education services through subsidised set-top boxes. The group plans to offer Sky's bundled TV programme packages in the spring, with the full interactive service

following in the summer.

Mr Cruickshank, who has submitted evidence to an Office of Fair Trading investigation into BIB, said his initial fear was that "two great, ugly monopolists were getting together". But he argued that the market for interactive broadcasting was so new that it would be inappropriate to saddle the ven-

ture with restrictive conditions. The comments came as Oftel, the telecommunications watchdog, launched proposals to ensure that BSkyB did ont restrict access to its satellite broadcast delivery platforms. It said BSkyB should charge itself the same rates to use the technology as it offered to competitors.

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Rank misses out on the euphoria among the blue chips

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN STOCK MARKET REPORTER

OF THE YEAR

Shares staged a predictable And it is making presentations arrival of Diageo, replacing treatment, Seronat, was in dan-116.4 points gain to 4,871.8 in which rarely herald bad news. often ebullient trading.

sistent selling took its toll,

statement. Profits collapsed interim stage.

larly gloomy. The share fall probably reflects the market's general unease over the group.

Of blue chips to miss the revivalist party. Guinness was reasonably well during the another, flat at 541p as the important summer months. market swallowed the £250,000 its patent on its anti-depressant

Still, the market is fretting Guinness cocktail. But much of the euphoria about the group's strategic direction. There are worries group due to produce a trad- about its bingo and holiday ing statement today. True, the camp operations and there is shares were at one time up a distinct feeling it needs to a rush of small deals and the the claim. "We have good, were encouraged by NatWest offer from Caribiner Interna-27.5p but then small but per-mount a significant takeover. ramifications of order-driven solid patent cover up and be- Securities support and Pan-(Greenalk, the pubs chain, has trading lifting the bargains to your 2,005, said a spokesman. mure Gordon fuelled interest pushing the price to 326p, low- been mentioned as a possible

Rank is not expected to performed by more than 30 offer a particularly upbeat per cent this year, despite an ambitious restaining by Anlast year and were down at the drew Teare, who arrived as chief executive from English It will be surprising, how- China Clays in April last year. ever, if the update is particu- When he joined the shares

were around 545p.
Rank was one of a handful

appear, private investors pro- it described as a "small, inforviding much of the action with mal analysts meeting" to refute est for four years. The shares target.)

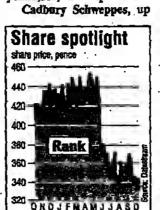
and SmallCap shares joined closed at 332p, down 10p.

The shares have under the fun although blue chips tal to a remarkable 84,305. Mid senerally made the running.

Schroders, the investment group, hammered in the meltdown, had the satisfaction of topping the blue-chip leader board. RioTinto, helped by figures, Kingfisher and Whitbread were others to stage comebacks.

Smith Kline Beecham gained 22p to 552p. Stories there was a "theoretical possibility"

rally with Footsie scoring a to analysts next week, exercises GMG Brands, for the combined Grand Metropolitan/ patent problem was appar- tion and increased US soft business for £105.1m. ently mentioned during con-Once again the market en-versations by one investment late feud with the Swiss made joyed a busy day with, it would house. SB quickly called what little impression.



Abbey National, up Sp at among transport shares, sugundervalued with the market ignoring share buy-back and special dividend possibilities.

Cowie advanced 19.5p to 356p, FirstBus 6.5p to 203.5p and Go-Ahead 4.5p to 488p. Eurotherm, the electronic

waite, with 14 fund managers.

Visual Action, with a 44 per cent gain to 285p, achieved the day's best result, thanks to a takeover bid. The audio-visual 915p, and Halifax, 12p at 697p, group has agreed a 295p cash tional, a US group. Electronic Retalling Systems, providing shelf labeling systems, jumped gesting they were 30 per cent 57.5p to 412.5p after announcing a merger with a rival, Telepanel Systems. Jardinerie, an interior plant company, fell op to 69.5p, a low, following a

profits warning. The shares were floated at 114p last year. Tamaris, the nursing homes equipment group, hardened chain, held at 2.5p. Roseview 13p to 400.5p following dinner. International, which embraces Singaporean and Malaysian interests of businessman Wicky hosted by Henderson Crosth-Pentland, the sporting Suyanto, plans to lift its stake goods group, added 10p to to 17.8 per cent. It is paying 101p as it disclosed another £3.15m (2.75p a share).

TAKING STOCK

Cathay International, with hotels in China, jumped 4.5p to 14.5p in busy trading. The shares have been as high as 18.5p in the past year. The group suffered a sharp profits fall last year; the sudden buying seemed to be based on the theory margins had improved considerably this year.

Since the Stock Exchange introduced order-driven trading last week turnover at its little Tradepoint rival has jumped from around £10m a day to between £30 and £40m.

Yesterday it was a record £82m with deals in Shell accounting for £33.8m. Its own shares rose 8p to 128p.

Dalkeith Inns, a shell, was unchanged at 19.5p. It intends to return cash to shareholders if it cannot find a suitable acquisition.

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27/BUSINESS

The economy is in good shape it's just shares that are struggling



KEVIN GARDINER ON WHY THE STOCK MARKET WEAKNESS IS NOT A THREAT

Following Wall Street's tumble on Monday, a White House spokesman said: "The President is confident the fundamentals of the American economy are strong." The choice of words chimed uncomfortably with President Hoover's comment in 1929 that "the fundamental husiness of the economy ... is

on a sound and prosperous basis". But as far as we can see. Mr Clinton is right. And his words apply just as much to the UK, where we think that the past week's weakness in share prices represents an opportunity, not a threat.

There is, as yet, little sign of the downturn in domestic husiness which would place corporate profits under pressure, And despite the widely proclaimed lack of pricing power and the strong pound, prices are rising more quickly than costs for most firms. Stroog growth in output, together with wider profit margins, is a recipe for its, and this is what we've been seeing. The likely hit from the after the 1987 crash. loss of Asian earnings is modest: eveo if such earnings completely disappeared, the impact oews for share prices if it on total UK profits would be of the order of 5 per cent.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Some commentators argue that a lower stock market will itself have an impact on the economy by making consumers poorer and more reluctant to spend. In practice, however, such wealth effects are unlikely to be large.

In aggregate, UK consumers have roughly £1.5 trillion invested in the global securities markets, with the bulk in the form of stock market investments. If distributed equally, this would work out at roughly £70,000 per household - which sounds both surprising and significant. But consumers have as much wealth again in their homes and bank deposits.

And most stock market investments take the form of a long-term pensioo fund or endowment policy.

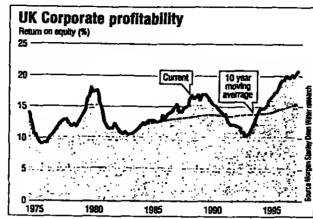
Moreover, the rise io the market this year has been rapid. Eveo after Tuesday's fall, the FTSE 100 index was still some 15 per ceot above its levels at the end of 1996. And this ignores any free shares received as a result of building society demutualisations.

If wealth effects were important and fast-acting, we would have seen them at work as share prices rose, in the shape of a nooceable decline in the proportion of disposable income which is saved. But the consumer saving ratio appears to have been stable, at historically high levels.

The 1987 episode provides supporting evideoce for the idea that wealth effects will be minimal. Then, ecocomists agooised over the extent to which the October crash would hit economic growth.

Many cut their forecasts for 1988 sharply, only to find that the economy actually accelersolid growth in corporate prof- ated. It was inflation, not recession, which was the hig risk

Of course, too stroog an economy oow could be bad pushed interest rates up faster than corporate profits. British



interest rates have already risen faster than elsewhere, and the Bank of England is unlikely to be deterred from raising rates still further simply because of the weak stock market, though it may not act as quickly as it

otherwise would. However, it is long-term interest rates, or gilt yields, which matter most to the market, and these have actually fallen, from 7.6 per cent for a 10-year gilt at the end of 1996 to just 6.6 per

Several factors have triggered this. The new and noex- itability. Growth in corporate pected independence of the Bank of England has boosted investor confidence in UK monetary policy. The possibility of eventual participation in EMU has pulled yields down towards German levels.

And shrinking government borrowing has left the Treasury in effect huying back stock, keeping gilt prices high and yields low. None of these factors will be quickly reversed, and a hig rise in gilt yields currently looks unlikely.

The immediate shape of the ecocomy, then, doesn't look particularly frightening. But in addition to these short-term cyclical considerations, there are several loog-term treods in place which are positive for UK shares, all the more so because in some cases they are still oot fully appreciated.

Interest Rates

profitable than they've been for a generation, with the return on equity comfortably outstripping the last cyclical peak (see graph). The trend rate of

growth in real corporate earnings in recent years has been easily outpacing the rest of the economy, and with the share of profits in GDP still unremarkable when viewed in the longer historical context, there is no reason why this shouldn't continue for a while yet, pushing the return on equity up still further. And this is high-quality profearnings is much less volatile than in the past two business cycles, and it is being delivered without hurdeoing balance

ered acquisitions. Nor is the expansion of capacity which is taking place yet hig enough to dilute returns directly: indeed, with the equity market at these levels, many companies will take the opportunity to huy hack their own

sheets, Eighties-style, with mas-

sive borrowing or ill-consid-

shares rather than to expand. More generally, the UK's relatively high inflation rate looks much less worrying when compared to the rate of economic growth.

rates are pretty much neckand-neck these days, the best sustained performance since Kevin Gardiner is a senior econ-UK companies are more the UK and the other developed Witter.

economies in this respect has all but closed.

Measured unemployment has fallen to levels approaching those in the US, with a return tn the 1986 peak all hut inconceivable: this should be a less divisive cycle than the last two.

And there are even signs, at last, of a structural improvement in the balance of payments. The previously remorseless post-war decline in the key manufacturing account seems to have stopped: this might yet be the first cycle since the war not to be marked by a new low in the alance of payments.

To investors, all of these things are worth paying for. But while the overall performance of corporate UK and of the wider economy is probably better than at any time since the Sixties, the valuations placed on UK shares have looked less remarkable. even after allowing for the impact of the July Budget on dividend taxation. They have also lagged behind those seen in the US and continental Europe. The immediate trigger for last week's slide was a sharp fall in the Hong Kong market, rather than any bad domestic news.

This is no guarantee that share prices will quickly stabilise or rebound, Investment is an unavoidably subjective process and, in a capitalist economy, goods and services -- and shares are worth only what people are willing to pay for them.

This is a humbling lesson, because it follows that there may be no such thing as fair value. All we can do, as analysts, is point out when the economy clearly isn't "fundamentally sound", and how current stock market prices compare to the rules of thumb which we think have receotly been working best. And at the moment it looks to me as if the good news Inflatioo and GDP growth oo the economy and corporate finances is not "in the market".

the Sixties, and the gap between omist at Morgan Stanley Dean

Liffe Financial Futures

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



Gosh, they are all happy souls at the Personal Investment Authority, the soco-to-disappear financial services regulator. Not content with a summer party, the boys and girls who watch over our finances are to host a Christmas bash.

Set for 17 December, the party will also mark the final appearance of the PIA's chief executive, Colette Bowe. Clearly determined to ensure a good turnout at her last hurrah, the authority appears to be imposing a three-line whip on staff.

Heoce the decree from on high that all 18 employees at the PLA's Edinhurgh office should be in attendance. Before now, they held their own celebrations. Not this year,

But what about the hefty cost of fares? No problem: all staff will be flown down to London for free. What about accommodation for the Edinburgh atteodees? No problem here either: they will be pot op free of charge in a swanky London botel for the night. What about those who would rather be at home with their loved ones? No worries: they will be able to bring their spouses down at no ex-

How does the PIA propose to justify spending its members' money on airfares and hotel accommodation? Silly question: simply arrange for the party to follow a vital halfday training seminar.

The PLA's answer to questions on this matter is a charming "no commeot". "We do not feel this is an issue that needs to be discussed in public," said a spokeswoman, primly.

So where do ex-Cabinet ministers go when they tire of life on the froot beoch? Into the cash-rich private sector, of course. And the former chancellor. Kenneth Clarke, is certainly no exception to the rule.

Two weeks ago came Mr Clarke's appointment as non-executive deputy chairman at tobacco and financial services giant BAT. Theo was yesterday's announcement that he is to act as guru to Daiwa Europe Limited, a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Daiwa Securities.

So far, all sounds fine and dandy. No doubt Daiwa, whose Tokyo parent has become embroiled in the Japanese pay-off scandal, could

Industrial Metals

use what Alex Monnas, head of Daiwa Europe, calls Mr Clarke's "experience, connections and judgement". The only problem is that cigar aficionado Mr Clarke may not be able to light up while holding court. Dai-wa Europe resides in a designated no-smoking huilding.

Talking of BAT, it seems Martin Broughton and friends could have some desks to fill at Globe House, BAT's soon-to-be new London home. The proposed move from BAT's Victoria Street HQ to Temple's Globe House was announced by Mr Broughton last

The original idea was that BAT's top brass would move lock, stock and barrel to the new premises. Now, following oews that BAT is to marry its financial services off to Zurich Insurance, the plan is a little different.

Tobacco staff are still oo course to move to Globe House. But financial services employees are off to either BAT's Arlington Street offices or their oew masters in Zurich.

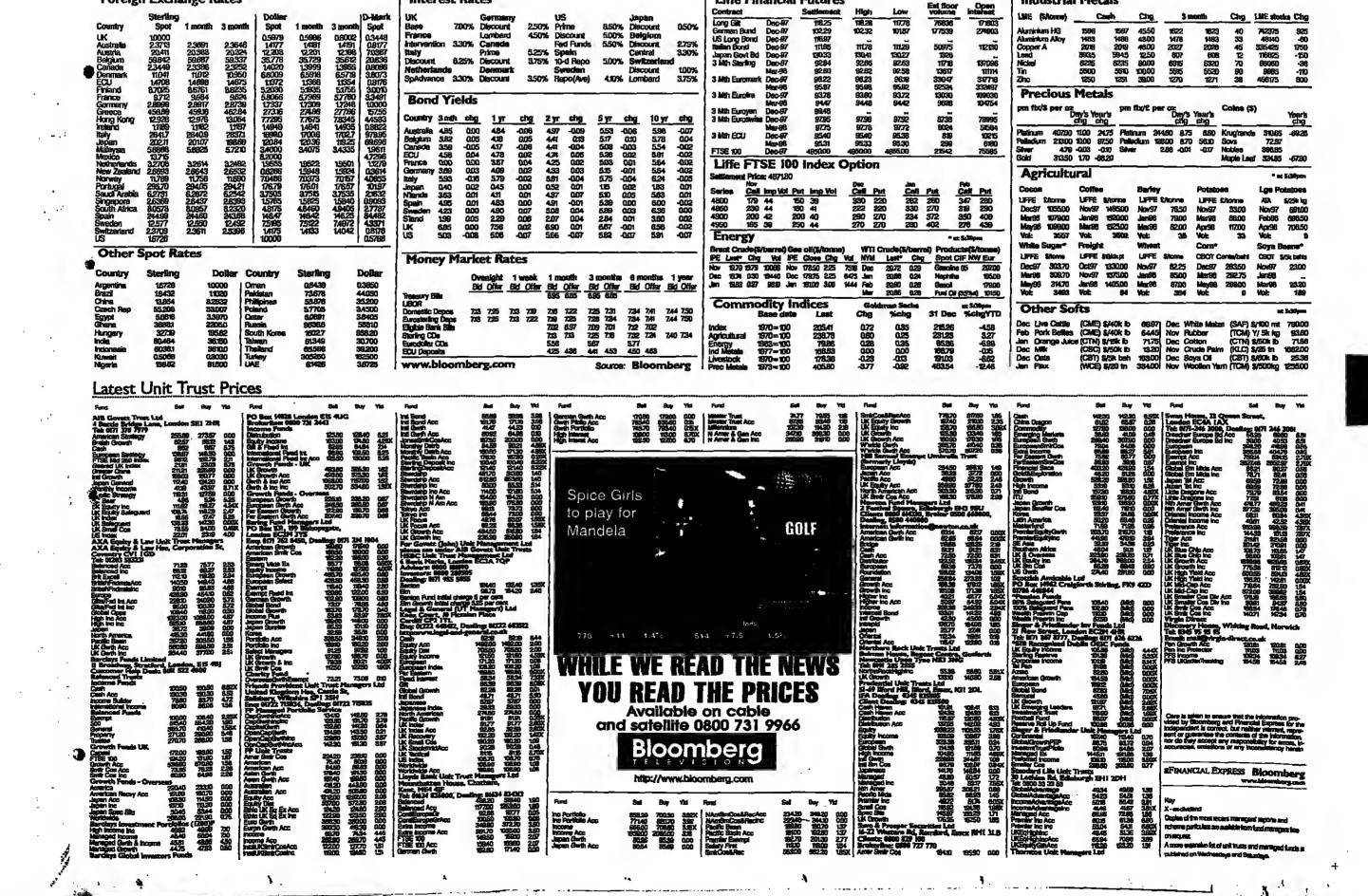
So how can BAT put the empty space at Globe Hause - which is certainly not going to be a smoke-free zone - to good use? "Perhaps any spare space could be let out as meeting rooms to companies where people like to smoke," joked a BAT's spokesman. Any suggestions for likely takers, Mr Clarke?

Mike Williams, the Treasury official who squeezed the dreaded windfall tax out of the privatised utilities, has found a worthy match for his hargaining skills. The word is that Mr Williams' oegotiating tactics failed him mis-erably when faced with the prospect of haggling in the fevered atmosphere of a Bangkok flea market. Mr Williams was in Thailand as part of a high-level UK delegation, including John Michell, the head of the DTI's energy unit, despatched to wax lyrical about the benefits of privatisation.

In a Monty Pythonesque incident, the Treasury hard man was faced with a hugely inflated price for some T-shirt or other and, wheo the momeot came to beat his adversary down, responded by stumping up the asking price with a wad of fast-depreciating Thai

In cootrast, I hear that Mr Michell, veteran of running battles with British Gas, managed to persuade another trader to part with half his stall by cunningly pretending he was set to buy the other half as well.

The trip itself rapidly turned into a Far Eastern version of a Whitehall farce. Messrs Williams and Michell were paired with the unlikely combination of Clare Spottiswoode. the gas regulator, and her arch adversary from the former British Gas, Steve Cropley, But the gang of four discovered the finance ministry needed rather more urgent assistance than privatisation advice, as the currency and theo the government collapsed in swift



Women's challenge an education

Despite finishing well down the field in the first leg of the Whitbread Round the World yacht race, the all-woman crew of EF Education remain positive.

Stuart Alexander reports from Cape Town on a team proud of their achievements so far and ready to provide a more substantial challenge in the second leg.

To come in next to last with a smile all over your face as Christine Guillou, skipper of the EF Education women's team in the Whitbread Race. did in Cape Town at the weekend was testimnny not to naïvety but progress.

She leads the happiest crew in the boat park next to Victoria and Alfred Waterfront and one of her crew, the New Zealander Leah Newbold, says: "The atmosphere on the boat is fantastic,"

The female side of the Swedish EF campaign is not a first. Clare Francis was the first woman Whitbread skipper, Tracy Edwards headed an allwoman crew in 1989/90, and the saga of the American all-woman crew put together by Nance Frank for 1993/4

After a coup in Punta del Este, Uruguay, Frank left, the hoat was taken back by its owners, Heineken stepped in to

sponsor a reconstituted allwoman crew led by Dawn Riley, and four years later the American legal system has still to rule on whether Frank can sue four parties for a total of \$60m (£38m).

When it came to thoughts of who would win the 1997/8 race, the EF crew was written off, partly because they had made no secret of the disadvantage they felt they carried physically when it came to handling heavy sails in tough conditions.

They also acknowledge that their strategic and tactical options are at times limited by their ability to make changes to the sailing of the boat quickly enough. A different kind of cost-to-benefit analysis has to be made to that of some of their

But they feel there has been a strong plus side to the first 7,350 miles of the race. "Our boatspeed can match the others." Guillou says, "but it is difficult to make comparisons on a leg when the boats were so far apart. There is a good allround enthusiasm on the boat. all the girls are very energetic and motivated. They want to get

Guillou, more accustomed to single or double-handed sailing on smaller boats and shorter courses, points - in the same way as her male counterparts who turned in results less sparkling than they expected - to the luck factor in the

north to south Atlantic run. Their additional problem was that where a strong crew of men could contemplate chang-



Spinnaker trimming on board the Swedish Whitbread challenger EF Education during the first leg of the race

The attitude remains posi-

ing sails even for a few minutes because they could accomplish the joh quickly to take advantage of a short-term opportunity, the women's crew had to calculate whether the disruption would be greater than the gain because of the extra time it took them to complete the same

pared to be out for a long tive the whole time, Guillou says. "We really enjoy being on Leah Newbold says: "We the boat and we are very strong

were also lucky that the last 1,000 miles was good sailing and went very quickly. We know we can sail the boat in every condition and most of us have been together for a long time now. We arrived with the boat in

good shape and, like everyone

ise, we are always learning." Guillou expects to be more in touch with the fleet on the next leg to Fremantle and while knowing that all her rivals will be pushing things to the limit, is always aware that she and her . their own limit. "Maybe there career."

is a difference between us and the men, but the first rule is to

Photograph: Team EF/Allsport

complete the leg," she says.
"This is definitely the most competitive event I have ever been in and I am proud to be part of such a competitive fleet, It is inspirational," Newbold crew have to manage things at says. "It is the pinnacle of my

American yacht forced to withdraw

A second blow in two days hit the Whithread Round the World Race yesterday with the announcement that one of the three American entries, Dr Neil Barth's America's Challenge, was pulling out after completing only the first leg to Cape Town.

Barth said: "We have been the victims of unfortunate circumstances", which is thought to refer to a problem whereby cash paid by Mexican sponsors Cuervo, Corona, Herdez and Jogos de Valle has disappeared along with the man who was managing it in Mexico. It is thought to involve about \$850,000 (£520,000).

The withdrawal reduces the fleet to nine and follows the departure the day before of Chris Dickson as skipper of another American yacht, Dennis Conner's Toshiha.

America's Challenge, seventh to arrive in Cape Town, was one of only two of the 10 starters not to be designed by Bruce Farr. Alan Andrews had been called in as designer by Barth, hut there had been littie chance to assess its true potential. The scoring system will. however, remain the same as it is based on entries, not starters.

Among the crew was Britain's Matt Humphries, skipper in 1993/4 of the Dolphin & Youth challenge, "We were very happy with the boat and we have all been let down," he said. "Had the boat come first or last, wouldn't have made any difference.

One immediate consequence was that America's Challenge crew member Jared Henderson was recruited to fill the 12th place for the next leg on Grant Dalton's Merit Cup. Stuort Alexander

No expertise in lip-reading

players now direct at referees

and it is this extreme of dissent

on which they should come

down hard.



Now you can help us choose. Because England, the home of the world's greatest sport, is about to become the permanent venue for the International Football Hall Of Fame, backed by the Independent and the Professional Footballers' Association. And we need you to decide which of the game's heroes should be first to be inducted.

Over the next few weeks with your help, we will pick the best 25 of all time to be inaugurated in November in the official Hall Of Fame. To qualify, your pick must have played for his country and have retired for three years.

So get voting now. What we need you to do is nominate up to four players for election to the Hall Of Fame. Simply follow the instructions on the right.

Internet: You can also cast your vote on the Internet at www.sporting-life.com. This is how it all works.

· A player of any nationality can be elected. He must have been retired for three years and have gained a full cap. Anyone can make up to four nominations.

up to four nominations.

• A nomination must be sent to the International Football Hall Of Fame on an Official Voting Form, by telephone to a registered number, or via the Internet.

• Voting ends on Sunday November 9, 1997.

The five players with most nominations will automatically be elected.

• A Selection Committee made up of seven retired players from different countries, with a chairman from the PFA, will draw up a short list of 60 players from those who receive most votes. This list is given to a panel of football journalists, chaired by the Mirror Harris Fach will choose a too DEFENDERS. el of football journalists, chaired by the Mirror's Harry Harris. Each will choose a top 20. The 20 players who receive most votes will be elected.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

make sure you use it!

DEFENDENTS

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Who is the greatest!

top five players overall from all the votes received will automatically go into The Hall of Fame.

In the table below, we have listed 250 players who could all be in con-

CODE PLAYER

458. George Cohen 458. Stan Duliss 469. Glacinto Facchetti 448. Tonuny Genmen

1444 Claudio Genille
1444 Claudio Genille
1455 Eric Bretts
1447 Aber Hansen
1448 Ernst Happer
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1452 Norman Hunter
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1459 Bobby Moons
1459 Morten Olsen
1460 Alf Ramsay
1460 Alf Ramsay

460 All Ramsay 463 Xenny Sansom 464 Nation Serios 465 Ull Stelles

465 Marius Treso

AGE Bertie Vogts 466 Ray Wilson 409 Ray McFerland

When selecting your play- lection, all you have to do er codes. At the end of the lems voting, call our ers for the International is select your choice of up call, you will be asked to Hall of Fame, you have to four players. If you leave your name and adthe chance to make wish you may select only dress. Your votes will be FOUR votes and four one, but FOUR is the registered against your votes ONLY. Remember maximum. Select up to name. your votes count, as the four players, noting down their code numbers and 565 996 or use the form on then call 0930 565 996.

You will then he directed November 8. tention. To make your se- to enter your chosen play- If you experience prob-

mentally, even if we lack phys-

ical strength. This leg of 32 days

was probably the longest we

had all been at sea for at one

time, but it never felt as though

it was endless. We were pre-

VOTE NOW on: 0930 the left and send it to: The First of all, you will be Independent, Hall of asked to carry out a quiek Fame, PO Box 6927, Lontest to determine what don E3 3NZ. Postal entype of phone you have. tries must be received by

helpline: 0990 800 283. You cannot register your vote on this line. Vote lines close on November 9, 1997. Republic of Ireland number is 1550 123 302 (Tone phones only).

Calls should last no more than two mins. 50p per minute at all times Calls from Republic of Ireland cost 58p per minute include VAT.

The players

475 Osvid O'Leary 477 K-Henz Schnelli 475 Bill Shankly 479 Manny Kaltz MIDFIELDERS 705, Billy Brenner 707 Alex James 708 Marian Masny 709 Jimmy Metroy 730 Jorge Burrachaga FORWARDS AMD/FELDERS
603 Abn Batl
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804 Jose Aguas

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807 Gerry Armstrong

808 Liss Arline

808 Georgi Asperuchov

839 Jeff Aste

834 Jope Belanov

835 George Best

836 Roberto Bethaga

837 Oleg Blokhin

8382 Stove Bloomer

8383 Paymine Bortis

8383 Paymine Bortis

8384 Reymond Braine

8485 Ret Carter

847 Cartes Cassely

848 Mick Cramison

849 John Charles

850 Giorgio Chymaglia

853 Aliredo di Stefano

855 Rein Cables

856 Aliredo di Stefano

858 Preban Caspe

858 Preban Caspe

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859 Preban Eligier

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877 Torri Firancis

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898. Mario Kentpes 889. Sandor Kocsis 900. Raymond Kopa 903. Hans Kranki 904. Grzegorz Lab 905. Dennis Law 906. Tennins Lev 907. Francis Lee 908. Leonidas da Sha 919. Billy Liddell 928. Arrano Varela Arrano Varela 924. Jose Augusto Scotland Scotland Czech'ia N keland Argentina Argentina Hungary France Austria Poland Scotland England England Brazil Scotland Scotland Switz'land Brazil Portugal Hungary Vitales N Ireland Spain
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Dissent has become football's most alarming problem

invective at a referce, harass him at his work and even condemn his performance publicly.

You only have to ponder this for an instant to infer what it implies: a game so cut off from reality, so high on spurious attention that standards of behaviour on the field and respect for officialdom are no longer thought in be important.

Relations between referees and players have always been subject to frequent emotional disturbance, but imagine the state of submission to which the authorities will be brought if they allow the present state of affairs to continue. The true tone of sport in

this era is set by the élite corps, the best of the professionals, the richest gamespersons who are admiringly interviewed by sycophants and receive the same adoring space as rock stars. This is particularly evi-

dent in football. Seldom confronted with the effect of their conduct on an upcoming generation, they become conditioned to believe that anything goes in the cause of collective and personal gain. After a two-week break

from this sporting life - at least as we know it in this country it was no surprise to discover that things were pretty much as I had left them. Players and referees in conflict, cynical manipulation of the rules covering suspension and still no sign of effective legislation. Following the dismissal

last week of Arsenal's Emmanuel Petit for pushing referee Paul Durkin, things

If recent events are anything to came to a head when John go by, footballers today con- Hartson questioned the is required to be aware of the sider themselves entitled to spit integrity of the match official foul-mouthed abuse many Mike Reed after West Ham lost at Leicester on Monday.

If I seem to be reacting in the veteran's standard fashion to the disappearance of decorum in sport, it is nevertheless true that many of the values that once existed have been lost to rampant commercialism. Seeing things in a different light is not an unfamiliar experience for footballers and their coaches, but it is time that they recog-

nised the dangers in anarchy. Trouble is that the game's



KEN JONES

governing body, Fifa, remains muddled in its thinking. In its failure to set out clearly a charter for fair play, Fifa has allowed dissent to become football's most alarming probtem.

According to Peter Willis. official spokesman for the Referees' Association, his members have been more tolerani this season than is good for them. "Too tolerant of things like foul tackles from behind. dissent, the use of foul language and not retiring 10 yards at a free-kick," he said this week. "It is time some players accepted their responsibilities...youngsters do copy what they see on television."

Going hack 25 years. Dutch referee Leo Horn took charge of the European Cup final between Benfica and Real Madrid that brought a 5-3 victory for the Portuguese champions. At a critical stage of quite assonishing proceed-

ings. Horn found himself surrounded by almost the entire Real Madrid team after denying them a penalty.

Before the fracas was over. Real Madrid's Ferenc Puskas, who had spat repeatedly into the air, hurled a glistening object into the crowd. It turned out to be a gold-plated whistle presented to Horn by the Dutch football association.

The next day I asked Horn. a large man standing well over six feet and with the build of a heavyweight boxer, why he had not dealt severely with Puskas. "You do not understand," he replied. "When I saw Puskas spitting, I bounced my whistle off his head.

On the grounds that they invariably even out. Jock Stein advised his Celtic players not to get upset by the referee's decisions. Sound advice which unfortunately does not appear to figure in the instruction given hy today's managers and coaches.

Two things occur to me about some of the present heroes. One is that they should he told to go off and play with the other children. Another is that they shouldn't take the field without first washing out their mouths with carbolic.

CRICKET

Reiffel signs deal with Northamptonshire

Northamptonshire have signed available for the whole season. Paul Reiffel as their overseas player for next season following their failure to persuade fellow Australian Shane Warne to play in England.

The 31-year-old fast bowler. a huge success on last summer's Ashes tour, replaces Mohammad Akram on a one-year contract and is expected to he out tomorrow for five days.

Dermot Reeve will coach the England women's World Cup team during warmweather training in Portugal The squad are due to defend their world title in India, starting on 10 December, and will call on the Somerset coach's

Colin Metson has ended his 11-year association with Glamorgan after being left out of their Championshipwinning side last season. The 34-year-old wicketkeeper joined the Welsh county from Middlesex in 1987 and played 207 first-class matches for them, but he lost his place to Adrian Shaw last summer.

THE

O LI MAR

Cup intrigue centres on Borgia's odds

Europe has assembled its smallest challenge for the Breeders' Cup a week on Saturday since 1989 when II crossed the Atlantic.

However, the team will be led by Singspiel, quoted a hot favourite yesterday for one of the meeting's top events. Richard Edmondson

A total of 10 European runners, four of them British, three French, two Irish and one German, are now expected to go where many have failed hefore them and try to make their names out west in Hollywood

RESULTS

CHELTENHAM

1.10: 1. BLOWING ROCK (J Culloty)

10-1: 2. Dolee Notte 5-1: 3. Semuel
Wilderspin 4-11 fav B ram. 5, 1% (Mes H
Knight, Wantage): 106: 5970; 5140, 5120,

51:0. DF. 51350. CSF: 536.48

1.40: 1. MANDYS MANTINO (P Hde)

1.8: 2. Chief's Song 8-13 fav; 3. Rovestar 16-1 4 ram, rik, 22 (J Grifford, Findon)
Tote: 5200. DF: 5120. CSF: 5256. Non Runrer: Herbert Lodge.

arr in-1 4 rain, Rr. 22. (3 carrord, Fridon). Total: \$2.00 DF: \$1.20 CSF: \$2.56. Non Runner: Herbert Lodge.
2.15: 1. DARAYDAN (A P McCoy) 8-13. sav; 2. Pleasuretand 5-1; 3. Sharp Compand 7-2.4 ran. 8, 14, (M Ppe, Wellington). Total: \$1.50 DF: \$2.80. CSF: \$3.87.
2.50: 1. LITTLE TINCTURE (G Upton) 2-1; 2. Coming Alive 7-4 jt fav; 3. Southermorespectal 7-4 jt fav; 3 ran. 1½, dat. (Mrs T McInnes Stonner, Melson Mowbray). Total: \$2.50 DF: \$2.40 CSF: \$4.94 NR: Edge-moor Prince, Ideal Partner.
3.25: 1. LADY REBECCA (N Williamson) 4-7 fav; 2. Lombardic 5-2; 3. Seacon Lane 12-18 ran. nk; 9, (Mas V Williams, Herebord). Total: \$1.60; \$1.30 \$1.20 DF: \$1.60 CSF: \$2.15, 4.00: 1, POTTERTS \$AY (A Magure) 2-1; 2. Glamarngitt: ¼-1; 3. Kemmore-Speed 2-1, 4 ran., 15-8 fav Buck Jeles (4th) 1½, 25 (D Nicholarn, Temple Gutting). Total: \$2.40 OF: \$3.50 CSF: \$1.56.3 NF: Cassic Contact. 4.30: 1, RRISH BANKER (G Supple) 9-2; 3. Seacon Lane 4.30: 1, RRISH BANKER (G Supple) 9-2; 3. Seacon Lane (G Supple) 9 4.30: 1. IRISH BANKER (G Supple) 9-2: 2. Be Lucky Colin 16-1; S. Flying On 13-8 lav. 14 ran. 7, nk. [M Pipe, Wellington). Tota: £4.70, £2.40, £1.30. DF: £29.50. CSF: £68.57, Tho: £40.60. Place 8: £61.73. Place 5: £47.51.

FONTWELL 1.30; 1. KING CURAN (Fl.Jehnson) 5-2; 2. Stapleford Lady 2-1 fav; 3. Mittig 5-1 B ran, 11/s, 11/s. (P.Bowen). Tota: £3.20; £170. £150. DF: £440. CSF: £691. Non Runner: The

2.05: 1. GALATASORI JANE (T. J. Mur-₩ 2.05.1. GALATASON JANE (TJ Mir-phy) evens fav; 2. Secret Bild 3-1; 3. Ki-nesiology 11-1, 5 ran, 2/h, 4. (P Nichols), Totas £170; £150 £140 DF; £310 €3F; £421 2.40; 1. CANTON VENTURE (M A Fitzgerald) 4-5 fav; 2. Run For Dante 8-1; 3. Brecon 4-1 5 fan, rk, 5. (S Woods), Tota; £160; £110 £360 DF; £820 €SF; £756 NR; Eau de Cologne.

Eau de Cologne.

3.15: 1. NESCAF (D O'Sullven) 11-2; 2.
Black Statement 9-2; 3. Fruit Town 25-1
6 ran. 7-4 fav Irish Dominion. 27; det. (R
Rowe) Tota: 2580; C340; C220. DP: 0990.
CSF: C278.

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Carranita (Nottingham 2.00) NB: Sea Wave (Nottingham 3.30)

3.50: 1. CHICKABIDDY (Mr. J Tizzard)
13-8 kay; 2. Man Mood 5-1; 3. What is The
Pien 25-1.6 ran, 11/2, 3 (G Edwards), Totar;
12-40; 12-40, 12-70, Dr. F. 46-90, CSF; 1935;
4.20: 1. GENTLEMAN JBM (J Magne) 5-2;
2. Killeaney Carr 7-2; 3. Alcombe 9-4 fav.
8 ran, Dat, 10. (C Marn), Totar 13-30; 11-50;
12-20, DF; E4-50, CSF; E11/1.
Placaport: 588-80, Guedoor: 554-20. Placepot: £68.80. Quedpot: £54.20. Place 6: £34.75. Place 8: £28.07. YARMOUTH

YARMOUTH
1.20:1. PARADISE NAVY (L Dettori) 9-4
jt tax; 2. Anjou 5-2; 3. Doyenne 12-1.9 ren.
Sht-hd, nk. (C. Egerton, Chaddleworth).
Totes 5340; 5180, \$10, 5280. DF: 5480. GSF:
578. This: 5720.
1.55:1. SEMERAN! (L Dettori) evere fer;
1. Semenational Love 4-1; 3. Behaviour
7-4 3 ran. ¼, rd. (L Curran, Newmarket).
Totes 5170. DF: \$230. GSF: \$423. NR; Beron

Ferdinand. 2.30: 1. CLASSY CLEO (J. F. Egen) 5-1; 2. Carol Singer 10-1; 3. Arten De S-1 9 ran. 32-2 to Mrs Melgropa, 2. sht-hd. (P. Evans, Welstripco), Tabe: C.50: C-120, C.20, C.20. DF: £180. CSF: £4890. Tricast: £28160. Tric.

CHIRD CSF: West Incisc 22501 Incisc 12501

3.05: 1. ASAD (L Dettori) 5-2: 2. Great Dane 4-6 fay; 3. Double Classic 7-1 8 ran. 11-7. 7 (Sacod bin Suroc, Nowmarks), Total 250: 5:40 CHIR CISCO DF: 5240 CSF: 5498. 3.40: 1. PUBLISHER (T Sprake) 12-1; 2. Star Crystat 5-2; 3. Un Melodic 2-1 fay: 10 ran. nk, 11-6, [J Farshewe, Nowmarks), Total 75-70; 2530. C120. E180 DF: 54990 CSF: 64260. Trio: 55480. C10-150 DF: 54990 CSF: 64260. Trio: 55480. C10-150 DF: 54990 CSF: 64260. Trio: 55480. C10-150 DF: 54990 CSF: 6479. C10-150 DF: 55840 CSF: 64790. C10-150 DF: 55840 CSF: 64790. C10-150 DF: 64890 CSF: 64790 DF: 64890 DF: 64

 Heritage will run in the November Handicap after all, his new owner, the trish-based trainer Sue Bramall, said rday. After the colt was sold on Abuid Saday a bloodstock agent acting for TS reads Bramall stated that Heritage are would be pulled out of the race, to be Tote and William Hill have re-instat-

 Merrim Jones, the trainer, and the jockey Derek Byrne were yesterday found guilty under the non-triers rule after Damien's Choice finished a "tenderly handled fourth in the Chel-tenham Sponsorship Club Novice Hurdle. The stewards fined Jones \$500, while Byrne received a five-day ban (7 to 11 November) and Damien's Choice was suspended from racing for 30 days (1 to 30 November). The race

	THE INDE		
•	U897 LIVE COMMEN NOTTINGHAM	26 TARIES 971	+ RESULTS 981
	STRATFORD	972	982
	SEDGEFIELD	973	983
	ALL COURS 0891 2	ES RESI 61 9	70

Singspiel, Royal Applause. \$11.72m [£7.2m] and if a slice Kieren Fallon, will be having his Lake (generally a 12-1 shot). Carmine Lake and Decorated Hero will at least not to have to wait on tables in diners before they are given their upportunity in front of camera at the Breeders' Cup, though history tells us California might not be the making of their careers.

Our representatives whenever north America's annual racing jamboree has been held out west have invariably felt as comfortable with the surroundings as a lobster dropped into a hubbling pot. The good word from the United States though is that the weather is unusually cool for the time of year at Hollywood Park, which is anyway mercifully close to the

A total of 94 runners have been declared for the seven main races which will offer combined prize money of

1.00 Ta Aruf

2.00 Divina Luna 2.30 The Downtown Fox

1.30 Radar

NOTTINGHAM

of this is to be hauled back across the Atlantic, it is expected to be in the suitcase belonging to Singspiel.

Michael Stoute's colt was second to stablemate Pilsudski in the Turf last year and his performances around the planet in the interim ensure he is now as low as evens with Ladhrokes to go one better. Elsewhere 6-4 is available. Among the retinue are

Desert King, Dance Design and Borgia, alt of whom have won Classics in Europe this year. Indeed, they are the only ones of our challengers to have Borgia, the German filly

who was third in the Arc, provides the most interesting initial betting conundrum. She is 9-2 with Ladhrokes and 16-1 with Caral. While her rider,

3.00 JAWAH (nap) 3.30 Bering Gifts 4.00 Homestead

PRECAUTIONARY INSPECTION: 89th (frost lorecast)

PRECAUTIONARY INSPECTION: Sam throat tonecast)
GOING: 61 track - Good IGood to Soft in places), Round course - Good.
STALLS: 61 - stands side, remainder - Inside.
IRAW ADVANTAGE: High numbers usually best to 51 å 61.

Left-hand, oxid course Filar and getipoping with easy furts.
Course is 2m assi of city off 5686. Notingham station 2m. ADMISSION: Club £12 (Juniors, 16-21 years, 201); Partiersells £6; Siver Filing & Paddock £4 CAR PARIX: Free parkne sealable.

(Luniors, 16-21 years, DS); Tattersells SB; Silver Ring & Paddock C4 CARI PARTIC Pres puring available.

© LEADING TRAINERS (FIVE-YEAR RECORD): J Duniop -- 21 winners from 27 numers gives a success ratio of 165% H Cooli 20-71 (782%) R Hamnon 12-167 (722%), J Gooden 11-07 (223%).

© LEADING JOCKEYS: L Detror! -- 28 wins, 143 rides (186%), K Fellon 25-158 (556%), D Duniold 20-78 (145%), T Sprake 19-138 (128%).

© FAVOURITES: 253 wins from 724 races (34.9%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

1.00 E.B.F. NETHERFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV i) £4,500 added 2YO 1m 54yds Panaity Valus £3,460

1.30 RUSHCLIFFE NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 2YO 7f 105yds Penalty Value £3,330

6sf 80: BETTING: 9-4 Redax, 4-1 Nerroght, 9-2 Prestorian Gold, 6-1 Alconfeigh, Af'a Fella, 6-1 Fashion Vic-tim, 6-1 Af'a Fella, 14-1 Night Auction, 50-1 Vividing Bend. 1996: Crapievar 2.9 7 O Harrison 3-1 ji fav Li Parchyste) drawn (5) 50 nm Expose or Hint

FORM GUIDE.

RADAR is 3to out of the handicup, but the good apprention Royston Fixench takes off the earne amount and Redar should be better off back at a rule after taking by a longer and a half to peg back front-numing Balansa of Exignton (7f), a race in which Prawforkan Gold finished eight lengthe beck in eighth, although he tailed to get the run of the race and is better than that. Balantia clearly appreciated the longer top of Brighton, and there must be a chance that his stablemate, Night Auction, will also improve now she is

up from six furlengs to a mile. The switch to a handicap could also make a difference. Feeblon Victim, out of his depth behind Gulland at Portefract last time, has already shown

he is sufed by this trip with a bit of cut in the ground, as has the consistent Narrogin. In the competitive Nowmerket nursery won by The Glow-Yorm, Al's Falls did better than

first Breeders' Cup ride, he will be no novice around the track having spent off-seasons riding around Los Angeles' circuits.

The Irish filly, Dance Design, who rugs across town at the weekend in the Yellow Ribbon at Santa Anita, is generally a 16-1 shot. The first three from the

Prix de l'Abbaye, Carmine Lake, Pas de Reponse and Royal Applause, reappear in the Sprint and on ratings and ability at least, they are the equals of the Americans, who are not in a vintage year.

The travel factor is another matter. Ladhrokes are the higgest here on the two British horses who have come out of early retirement for this assignment, showing 10-1 about Royal Applause (5-1 elsewhere) and 16-1 for Carmine

Hever Golf Rose, whose connections were hoping to book a late berth in the Sprint, misses out having qualified only as sixth reserve.

The Bermuda grass at Hollywood Park has been permeated by a boring machine which penetrates foot-long tunnels into the ground, but the grass track is still expected to be firm hy European standards.

This is still thought unlikely to damage Spinning World, the French coit who goes for us (in a Ryder Cup sense at least) in the Mile. He is 3-1 with Ladbrokes but 7-4 with the Tote.

A further entry is Decorated Hero, whose price of 20-1 reinforces the suggestion that he is more of an opportunity for his trainer, John Gusden, to meet old friends than a hot prospect. Gosden, formerly

Alconivigh, but A's Felia had been tound warting in the sort of noe betwehand and Mark Johnstons runner was coming back from a break. Never our of the money before Newmarket, Alconivigh has a chance despite top weight. Salection: RADAR

2.00 SNEINTON CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,500 Bdded 6f 15ydis Penalty Value £4,964

1 56902 BRAVE EDGE is (D) forth the Roorg Parrowship R learner 6 93... Date Origin 8 2 10055 SOVET STATE (USA) (47) (D) R 5 sengtest P Chaptel-Horn 6 93... J Reid 2 01055 SOVET STATE (USA) (47) (D) R 5 sengtest P Chaptel-Horn 6 92... J Reid 2 01050 BRITE (13) (D) Rose (14) (D) R Ingare 4 91... D Discontine 5 0000 BRITE (13) (D) Rose (14) (D) Rose (14) Barriord 5 8 2 ... J Corn 7 8 40000 DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (M) (D) (Infrative Ramp) P Fetgers 7 8 2 .D Sweeny (3) 3 0000 MIGHT HARMONY (10) (D) (Gents Arms Feech Mas 5 Witch 4 5 2 Writenorth 4 40005 TOP BRANAM (12) (D) Penny Candy M Candy 68 92 ... B Smith (7) 8 00000 TOP BRANAM (12) (D) Penny Candy M Candy 68 92 ... B Smith (7) 8 00000 TOP BRANAM (12) (D) Penny Candy M Candy 68 92 ... B Smith (7) 8 00000 TOP BRANAM (13) (D) D Vouse 8 Was R Roses) 3 Pating 7 8 7 ... T Sprate 11 00000 CARPANATA (6) (D) Phy Duse 8 Was R Roses) 3 Pating 7 8 7 ... T Sprate 11 00000 PRITSY GRANES (6) (CD) UX Grimes) 15 Worder 7 8 7 ... K Fision 1 -12 declared - ETTING 4-1 Brave Edge, 5-1 Penny Grimes, 6-1 Confirm Callett, 7-1 Carcarta, 6-1 Bowelen Roses, Soviet State, 9-1 Divine Lure, 10-1 Double Splensious, 14-1 Reid, 25-1 Top Bersons, 33-1 others. FORMA (UTID) EDGE (Edge Not the Sorm a Intio after running Crott Pool to three parts of a longth at

1996: Asmac 5 B 12 K Fation 8-1 (Gay Kelency) drawn (7) B on FORM GUIDE.

BRAVE EDGE lost his form a little after running Croft Pool to three pairs of a length at Sandewin in May, but he could be the one to beat here following last Finday's second behind the improving My Beet Volentine at Newbury, a competitive handcap in which Bowden Rose shished just over two lengths away conth, Pathay Gritosa seventh and Carmanita minth. Brave Edga, Bowden Rose and Pathay Gritosa seventh and Carmanita minth. Brave Edga, she could easily improve for the Newbury run, her first in almost four months. Thed over seven funding in Russan Revival's race at Newbury last time, Soviet State is back over his best distance. The trip was six furlongs when Soviet State best Crotan Gift first time out this season at Thirst, and again when he finished second to Hattab at Newbury in July. The hip looks wrong for Divine Luria if her winning racord is snything to go by, but she was just two lengths off the winner when My Best Veloriane best Bolin Joanne in the Late Beauck Stakes at Newmarket, Driva Luria commands respect on that effort, Judged on his Newbury run, Brave Edge is clearly in better form than he was when Crothanic Cellidh best him lour lengths in the Leleaster for the risk best when Crothanic Cellidh best him lour lengths in the Leleaster for this first, but in the meantime Crothanic Cellidh best him to The Puzzler at Newmarket, Bode time.

2.30 SE,000 added 2YO of 15yds Penalty Value E3,785

'JACK JENNINGS' CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS D)

BETTING: 2-1 (Jata Night Out, 5-2 Ring Dance; 5-2 The Downtown Fox, 15-2 Surah Stokes, 8-1 Research; 5-2 Ring Night Out, 5-2 Ring Dance; 5-2 The Downtown Fox, 15-2 Surah Stokes, 8-1 Rise Rise, 16-1 Piped Abount, 25-1 (Allemay Jacz, 1898; Restless Spirit (JESA) 2-5 Till J Wester 8-1 Ris Johnston) trains (8) 8 ran FORM GUIDE.

Ring Dancer did not beat much in terms of quality at Ripon in August but won impressively. Even with the 8th penalty, he is the obvious trivest to LATE NIGHT OUT, who looks sure to win raises after finishing just helf a length and a head behind Weston Cheeses in a newcomers' race at Ascur. Wilson January won here safer this month with another decent two-year-old colt. Shelford's Honour. John Dunlop, who trains Wission Cheeses, must Piped Abound, reliated to winners and sure to turn out before them he showed when last of five before Connectic at Constitute in him.

3.00 COLWICK PARK HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,100 added 1m 6f 15yds Penalty Value £4,175

SNEINTON CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,500

hased in the United States, believes Spinning World is the outstanding candidate. "Nothing should beat the favourite,"

Channel 4 will screen a onehour Breeders' Cup programme between 10 and 11pm on the Saturday night, showing the Classic live and recorded highlights of the other races. BREEDERS' CUP SPRINT: Coral: 5-1

BRIEEDERS' CUP SPRINT: Coral; 5-1
Pictiter Scale & Royal Applaume, 6-1
Emiturst & Pas de Reponse, 7-1 Track
Gat, 8-1 Hesabuli & Tale of the Cat. 10-1
Confide & Northern Affect, 12-1
Carmine Lake, Ladbrokes: 3-1 Richter
Scale, 5-1 Tale of the Cat, 8-1 Kelly Kip
& Pas de Reponse, 8-1 Cratry Friend, 10-1
Confide & Royal Applause, 14-1 Northern Affect & Tracksjon, 16-1 Carmine Lake,
Emiturst & Men's Endusive, Totar 6-1 Pas
de Reponse, Richter Scale & Tale of the
Cat, 7-1 Emiturst, Royal Applause &
Track Gal, 9-1 Hesabuli, 12-1 Confide &
Carmine Lake, William Hill: 6-1 Emiturst,
Richter Scale & Royal Applause, 7-1 Pas
de Reponse, Tale of the Cat & Track Gal,
10-1 Crafty Friend & Hesabuli, 12-1
Northern Reet, 14-1 Carmine Lake & Kelly Kip.

TENNIS **Breeders' Cup Classic**

Formal Gold 3-1 3-1 7-4 9-4 52 52 31 114 31 31 72 103 6-1 8-1 5-7 16-1 Deputy Commencian 6-1 7-1 6-1 7-1 N-1 20-1 15-1 16-1 Down The Aleks 14-1 16-1 33-1 14-1 Whiskey Window 14-1 2-1 50-1 15-1 Sentrio 16-1 20-1 50-1 16-1 Each stay a lith the colds, places 1, 2, 3 C-Coult H-William Hit L-Lackacies, 7-Tab

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Borgle	16-1	24	92	72-1
Valle Prince	6-1	7-1	6-1	7-1
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Majorien	16-1	12-1	10-1	16-1
Dence Design	14-1	16-1	16-1	1B-1
Awad	12-1	15-1	20-1	14-1
Chief Beartant	6-1	6 -1	20-1	64
Fing Down	7-1	12-1	20-1	10-1
Ope Smile	20-1	201	25-1	20-1
Response	10-1	2.1	25-1	10-1
Down The Aide	25-1	25-1	20-1	15-1
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Buck's Boy	33-1	40-1	40-1	33-1
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-	U) Dabie)	bay, with with at parasast of history.
[1.00	WOODTHORPE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO 1m 54yds Penalty Value £3,226
1		BLOCATING AMAZING (12) (D) (C H & D W Stephensort) J L Eyrs 9 7 M Geffingher 10
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3	036031	COLWAY RITZ (S) (R Coleman) J W Watte 9 2
4	44506	SHOSHALDZA (USA) (43) (Dr.J.A Chandler) P.R. Webber 8 0 L. Dettor! 18
5		WITH A WILL (43) (D) (Herry Carry) H Condy 8 DSerah Jackson (7) 7
В	020033	DOC POINTS (15) (P.) Florin M Room 8 12
7	3440	PERSEVERE (17) (Nas A Rodischild) Lord Hursington B 11
8	200352	STAR TURN (17) Outland Record) M Gell 6 8 Market Mar
В	-000E0	HAYDH JAMES (USA) (BS) (Thanet Lessing Limited) P Herris 87A Cultions 3
10	205555	BRAYE ENVOY (17) (forn Burge) M Henton-Elis 8 7 Weaver 15
71	30165	WELCOME HEIGHTS (15) (Most Welcome Partnership) M Fetherston-Godley BB
2	3000	SEA VA MATTE (II) (II) (S R Bowring) S Bowring 88
13	50068	APDEXT (8) (A Limb) C Beretsed 8 8
14	-00000	PLYING COLDURS (17) (Mrs R W S Baker) C Bensteed 8 B
15	BOO	RESOFTAGE 41) Of Bernet H Condy 6 5
16	620005	BO FOR GREEN (22) (Manor Farm Packers Ltd) Dr.J Scengil 8 5
7	010440	CAIRN DAU (115) (C) (Lins S.J. Berker) D. Berker 9.3
19	611302	HOMESTEAD (6) (D) (SF) (Geoffiery C Greenwood) R Harmon 8 2 R Fitreach (3) 2
NE	TING: 6-	1 Hamestand, 6-1 Star Three, 6-1 Streetmicrop, 7-1 Column Ritz, 6-1 Personne, Wal-

SETTING: 6-1 Hazmentand, 6-1 Star Turn, 6-1 Stockholaza, 7-1 Colveby Ritz, 6-1 Pessevera, Wecome Heighte, 5-1 Shesthelaza, 16-1 See Ye Methe, 15-1 Brave Envoy, Doc Ryan's 14-1 others 1996: Scenaris 3 8 8 F Lynch (3) 8-1 (R Holinshest) drawn (12) 17 ran FORM GUIDE

1996: Scenario 3 8 8 F Lynch (i) 8-1 (if Homography Januar) (a) is the part to with two in a row is apprentices, so he escapes a penalty, but whether he is the acrt to win two in a row is another matter. Colway Ritz also has an earn furinon to travel, and Sea Ye Malla could be mare at home over this distance, bearing in thand he won over the settended mile at Wolverhampton but the all-westians reurised cannot have suited her because she inhibited sepond to Star Entry back on surf at Folkestone. Judged on that run, Homestead stays further but coming back to mile will not do any heart. Persevers is over a mile for the first time since she firshed that to hish Light in a Bath malder. She run poorly behind Shalani at Leicester led time but she as a lightly-raced filty and could easily do better now she is in a handicap, especially as Kieren Pallon comes in for the ride. Star Than has head his share of chances but cannot be ruled out after going down by a short head to Alfahaal in a conditions race at Leicester, a run which gives him the beating of Brave Envoy and Ardent. Welcome Heights continues to run wall, while Frantide Detroit taltes the Alde on Shouhaloza, who might improve on previous efforts in handicaps if the ground does not dry out too much. Her staying-on fourth to Birt Shihama at Chepstow (7f) in July wee on a softish surface.

FORM GUIDE Jamain was a moderate 6th behind Dovedon Sar over this trip at Newmarket on 17 October but bounced back at Doncaster only a week later, finishing well clear of Spertan Heartbeat (binkered for the first time that season) and Tyconesis. The stable has done well recently with another three-year-old. Secret Ballot, and Jawah could still have more incom for improvement than most of the pider handscapes he tales on here. BEAUMONT never got into contention behind Forgie at Chester last time but his close fourth to Moter at Newcastie (2m) beforehand suggests he is capable of winning oil this mark. Beaumort can find a but more than most in a finish and might get the better of Jawah with Kieren Falton an encouraging booking. Random Kindhess commands respect for the simple reason he is on far form and has the necessary stamina, while Selekia is 14th better off with Jawah for the seven lengths that separated them here serier this month in the race won by Childrens Choica. Salska had little chance last time as the was 10b of the handicap in the Cesariswitch won by Tumpole. Star Rage was down the field at Newmarket, too, but he might be the pick of Mark Johnston's time runners despite the big weight.

3	3.30	E.B.F. NETHERFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DI II) £4,500 added 2YO 1m 54yds Penalty Value £3,460
1	33	BERRAG GIFTS (14) (GG Partnership) P Cole 90 T Online:
2		CAPRI (H R H Prince Fehri Selman) H Cecil 90 K Fellon:
3	83	GENERAL MONCK (22) (Lord Clinion) D Mortey 9 0
4	02	REGAL PATRIARCH (14) (Peter S Winfield) J Duntop 9 0
5	00	SARRE BUTT (16) (9 Schmidt-Bodner) M Tomplons 9 0
6	-	SEA WAVE (Goddown) Saced bin Surpor 80 Dettorf
7	0	SHOHRA WA JAAH (42) (Shelish Ahmed Al Maldourn) M Janvis B O
8		SWALLOW WARRIOR (Forenech Racing) T Etherington 80 C Lowther (3)
9	0	U.K. MAGIC (14) (UK Parkaging Supplies Lich J Benks 90
10		PLIZA ACTON (15) (Mrs P W Herrs) P Harris B9 A Culture 10
n		INCHAHOY (65s A Doran) J G Smyth-Osbourne BB T Sprate
2	00	NORCROFT JOY (5) (Next out Park Stud) M Pryon B 9
n		TILLER GIFL (12) (A Greenwood) W Carnecho 8 8

9ETTING: 2-1 Capri, 9-4 Bering Older, 5-2 See Wave, 13-1 Regal Petrierch, 16-1 Eliza Acton, 20-1 Shohm Wa, Jaak, 33-1 General Monck, Sabra Bott, 40-1 others

RL SOU LAVALUE 1	
FORM GUIDE	
ring Gifts was nine lengths off the winner, Absolutly Sparkin, at York first time out but	
approximed the better ground and the extra futurg at Newmarket a fortnight ago, fin-	
ing third of 22 behind Border Arrow and the taxourite Albertainn, Bering Gifts is sure to	
reces, but he could be up against two decent newcomers here in SEA WAVE, a sta-	
enste of Albaratin, and the Henry Cacil-trained Capri. See Wave is a Sartler's Wells	
fi-brother to the classy Tamure, while Caprt is reported to have been working nicely	
th Baffin Bay, who won at Leicester on Tuesday. Selection: SEA WAVE	
LOO WOODTHORPE HANDICAP (CLASS E) 54,025 added 3YO	
[NO WOOD I HORPE HANDICAP (CLASS E) ENJUSS BUDGETS TO	

STRATFORD

HYPERION 1.40 Fijon (nb) 2.10 Danger Baby 2.40 Supreme Flyer 3.10 Green Green Desert 3.40 China Gem 4.10 Northern Drums

GOING: Good. Source Cases.

© Left-hand course with 200yd run-in.

© Course is SW of Stratford-on-Avon on A439. Stratford station in. ADMISSION: Club £13; Tathersalis £3; Course £4. CAR PARK: Tm. ADMISSION: Club 2:3; Pattersals 09; Course SA CAR PARIC iredic course S2, remainder free.

● LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 30-100 (50%), II Nicholson 15-51 (284%), & Belley 5-5 (1927%) P Hobbs 13-69 (1931%).

● LEADING JOCKEYS: A Maguire 25-97 (25.0%), A P McCoy 24-16 (207%), N Wittisenson 18-109 (197%) M A Pitzgersid 18-63 (20.0%), D AAVOLRITES: 155-662 (25.7%), BLBUCEHED FIRST TIME: Spendy Snape Pride (140).

1.40 RICHARDSON'S PARKWAY SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) \$2,500 2m 110yds 44U-FO WHOD OF THOUGHT IT (56) P Charrings 8 10 12.

TI DOSP- WOODLANDS LAD TOO (152) P Presherd 5 10 12.

2.10 RICHARDSON'S STAR SITE LEISURE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 25,000 3m 4f

OPEUP. WOODLANDS GENHRE (152) P Prichard 12 10 0.

- 9 declared --Minimum weight 10st. True handicap weights: Bellyadword Set 10th, Woodfancis Gentum Set 30. BETTING: 2-1 Helcham Boy, 7-2 Dengar Baby, 5-1 Andre Laval, 5-1 The Go-phac, 7-1 Domaine de Prox, 14-1 Equity Player, Native Ventum, 20 others

2.40 ARCHIE SCOTT BENEVOLENT FUND CUP (HANDICAP HURDLE) (CLASS D) £4,000 2m 6f 110yds 23000 HAND WOVEN (209) N Twiston-Device 5 1: 12 _ C Lignwillyn 07222 NAME OF OUR FATHER (21) P Bowen 4 11 9 _ R Johnson

3.10 TOTE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) 26211- PLICHT LIEUTENANT (234) (D) T Casey 8 TF 10 ... 150-51 GREEN GREEN DESCRIT (14) O Sherwood 8 11 9 3.40 RICHARDSON'S MERLIN PARK MAID-EN HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 6f

2312- SUPPRINTE FLYER (181) (CD) (RP) K Balley 7 11 8 ... 173- ISIS DAWN (173) (CD) (SF) A Newcombe 5 10 10 -12 deciened -BETTING: 2-1 Polydersta, 11-4 China Gost, 6-1 Penselyn, 8-1 Launche-elact, 10-1 Dande Dove, Danger Ryan, 12-1 Ever Bold, Rum Customer,

4.10 RICHARDSON'S PRINT WORKS INTO CHESTER NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) 23,000 2m 110yds 463-9 FLOOSY (15) T George 8 71 1 R. Johnson 04423 SUMMER VILLA (12) (D) K Wingtons 5 10 71 J. Flynn B 044-5 SAPPHRE SON (F7) P Claring 8 10 9 A Meguitre 3P30-U HYDEMILLA (19) Mrs 7 Pikington 7 10 8 G Hogen (3) 034-P2 MCONLIGHT ESCAPADE (66) (D) R Hodges 6 to 8 B Powell B

SEDGEFIELD

HYPERION 1.20 Skiddaw Samba 1.50 Sweet Ciseaux 2.20 Country Orchid 2.50 Stylish Interval 3.20 Music Blitz 3.50 Keep it Zipped 4.20 Justin Mac GOING: Good to Fern.

Listi-hand, undulating course. Easy fences and long run-in on chase course of 500yds.

a issue country or activities.

© Course is tim south-east of town near function of A889 and A177.

Bus service from Stockton station (9m) or Durham station (2m).

ADMISSION: Paddock 58 (OAPs 54); Course 52. CAR PARK: Paddock 68 (OAPs 54); Course 52. CAR PARK: Paddock 68 (OAPs 54); Course 52. CAR PARK: Paddock 69 (OAPs 54); CA lock 22 rest fee.

LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 65-222 (29.3%), G M
Moore 19-106 (17.9%), J Howard Johnson 19-153 (12.4%), J Wade Moore B-Las (1997).

- 15-145 (102%).

- LEADING JOCKEYS: P Niven 46-158 (30.8%). L Wyer 19-89.

(32-5), A Dobbin 14-132 (10.8%). G Lee 12-55 (21.8%).

- FAYOURITES: 211-554 (38.1%).

BLINKERED FRIST TIME II You Belleve (3.50. Ole Ole (3.50) (Ascred).

1.20 STONEGRAVE AGGREGATES SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) \$2,500

P-1PON AUBURN BOY (25) (D) I Williams 10 12 0.....E Humbs 411P-6 TRIENNUM (12) (CD) (BF) P Montaith B 12 0.....A D 35-444 SRODDAN SANSIA (18) (CD) Mrs M Revelby B 10 13....

- o caccarea -Minimum veright 10st. True handicap weights: Thereis 8st 11th, Bruz 9st 7th, Shullan 8st 5th.

1.50 FREEDOM MAINTENANCE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) \$3,000 3m 3f 110yds Minimum weight 10st. Two hards project - Woodhouse Line Set 12b. BETTING: 3-1 Centle Ret. 7-8 Bellindo, Stooming Spring, 4-1 Sweet Cleanz, 11-2 Min Sprin, 10-1 Woodhouse Line

2.20 EBF NOVICE HURDLE (QUALIFIER) (CLASS D) £3,750 2m 1f 22-12 COUNTRY ORCHIO (15) (CD) (BF) Mrs M Reveley 8 11 0 ... US6 FRUMERTY (16) J Curis 5 ft 0.

DOS: PAZANAL (19) CO E M Moore 8 11 0 _____ A DOSSIN COS. PERSUASIVE TALENT (40) D Lamb 6 11 0 _____ J Buries COS. TALABORPORT (19) T Easterby 5 11 0 _____ L Wyer COP. CHIEF CHIPPE (199) W Kemp 4 10 13 _____ B Storey P THREE WISE MEAL (53) T Easterby 4 10 13 _____ R Cambry PP21-P FOREYER GREY (85) J Howard Johnson S 10 9 _P Carbony — 8 declared —

2.50 FREEDOM PROFESSIONAL SERVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) 24,000 2m 5f 110vds

3.20 JAYNE THOMPSON MEMORIAL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) \$4,500 2m 5f

BETTING: 54 Music Biltz, 13-8 Edistons, 5-1 Saxon Faix, 6-1 Tall Tale

LMS MACHINE SERVICES HANDICAP 3.50 CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 3m 3f

per ser se: BETTING: 2-1 Northern Drume, 5-1 Moonlight Enceptale, 13-2 Soldier Mak 8-1 Ember, Marsayes, 16-1 Floosy, Summer VIII., 12-1 others 3 21-833 KEEP IT ZIPPED (22) (D) O Sherwood 7 71 9

SECTING: 4-1 Overflowing River, 6-1 Keep It Zipped, 6-1 Mise Coleite, 13-2 Reve de Vaice, 6-1 James O'Dea, 16-1 It You Bellove, D'Arbtsy Street, Ute Oie, 12-1 others

4.20 QUARRINGTON STANDARD NH FLAT (CLASS H) £1,500 2m 11 JUSTIN MAC (16) (CD) J FitzGerald 8 11 tt ... CALDAMUS Mis M Jones 5 11 4 KATSAR (275) M Hammo RUNGHA (213) J Berry 5 # 4 on. SKILLWISE (180) T East TELL ME ANOTHER J Wade 5 11 4 _______

2 TUZO (5) K Hogg 5 11 4 ______

SAYONARA N Cremberbin 4 71 3 ._____

4 SUP AWAY (5) J J ONell 4 11 3 ._____R Nr S Sv WYNYARD DAMSEL Mrs M Reveloy 4 to 12 _____G Lae (3)

- 10 declared - - 10 dec

Rusedski powers past Siemerink

Greg Rusedski, the British No 1, lived up to his reputation as the world's fastest server by disposing of his fellow lefthander Jan Siemerink in just 60 minutes in the second round of the Paris Iodoor Open vesterday.

Rusedski, the fourth seed. dropped only seven points in nine service games, four of which were double faults, as he cruised into the last 16, 6-46-3.

Siemerink is ranked 108th in the world following a poor spell, though he was listed as high as 15 last December. But he looked out of his depth against the world No 5, who not only served well hut also pounded over backhand winners.

Siemerink lost his serve in the opening game of the match and that one hreak cost him the first set in 29 minutes. Games went with serve until 3-3 in the second set, but then Rusedski took complete control. hreaking Siemerink to both the seveoth and ninth games for a comfortable victory. The London-based lefthander will now meet the Czech Bohdan Ulihrach in the third round today.

With Rusedski looking destined for a place jo the lucrative ATP Tour Championship in Hanover from 10-16 November the way looks clear for Tim Herman to defeod successfully his British National title at Telford the same week. Heoman, disappointed that he no longer has a chance of playing in Hanover, announced his intentioo to play yesterday, news that will hearten the British authorities, who were eager to have a high-profile player at the

Henman is certainly that and has enjoyed some of his finest moments at Telford, beating Rusedski in the final for the past two years. David Felgate, Henman's coach, would probably prefer the 23-year-old from Oxford to rest during the Telford week after a long and arduous year, hut Heoman knows that it is in his interests to promote British tennis

Henman, beaten 6-3 7-5 by Alex Corretja in the second round of the Paris Indoor Open late on Monday night, knows that if he is to make progress up the world rankings to close the gap on Rusedski he must become more consistent.

"I know that I need to improve my serve and my ground strokes if 1 am to go higher in the rankings," the world No 18 said. "And I shall be working hard in the next few weeks with this in mind."

Henman will compete in the Stockholm tournament next week and then at Telford and will play in an exhibition douhles event at the Albert Hall in December.

Apart from those three events it will be continual practice, except for a short hreak at Christmas, before flying to play in the Doha tournament in January, an event in which he was runner-up last year.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Queen's Park Rangers v Oxford Utd (70) (Harrow Boough FC). FA YOUTH CUP Third Qualitying round: Someraham Town v Histor (730).

YOUNG SHIELD FINAL second leg: Exelo v Long Eaton. ice hockey SUPERLEAGUE: Newcastle Cobras v Ayr Scottish Eagles (70).

Other sports HOCKEY: England v South Korea, women's international (Million Naymes, 3/0). TENNIS: L'IA Women's Challenger (Edinburgh).

TODAY'S NUMBER

9,320

The miles covered on a bicycle by the Chinese journalist Bo Fanzhoo, who arrived in Sydney yesterday, having ridden to each of the cities which have held the summer Olympic Games. Bu, who ended his journey in front of Sydney Opera House, travelled through 16 countries, setting out from

Athens in June 1996.

Tests of the best facing captain Dallaglio

The new England captain Lawrence Dallaglio faces the toughest of rugby union baptisms: New Zealand (twice), South Africa and Australia, all before Christmas.

But, as David Liewellyn discovered yesterday, the new man is relishing the challenge.

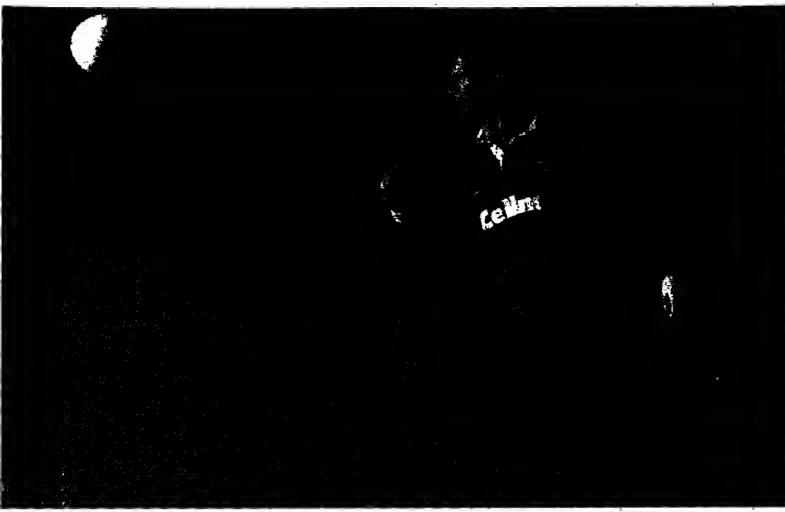
When he was 18, Lawrence Dallaglio played at No 8 for England Colts against their Italian counterparts at Cambridge University's Grange Road ground. His surname, courtesy of his father Vincenzo, naturally raised interest from the visitors. Questions were asked, suggestions were made and letters exchanged. Milan and Rovigo were prepared to take their interest further and Dallaglio was eveo offered a place at Milan University.

But the lure of London and perhaps of Chelsea Football Club in particular - proved too strong. The blandishments were rejected and Dallaglio's decisioo to opt for the country of his birth rather than his family name has reaped its full reward with his appointment yesterday, at the age of 25, as the new England captain.

Clive Woodward, for one. bas oo doubt as to his qualification for the job. "He is right up there in world terms," the England coach said. "He would be in many people's World XV. He has been outstanding for England and for the Lions."

The prospect of facing the three giants of southern hemisphere rughy in the immediate future does not appear to bother him unduly. While it will be a trial of both his playing ability and his qualities of leadership. he takes a positive approach.

"We have to be capable of operating at that intensity," he said. The aim is to defeat the three visitors now and win the World Cup. By the time we finish off this series of four Tests, we



New ball game: Lawrence Dallaglio displays his all-round skills on the day of his appointment as England's rugby union captain Photograph: Peter jay

will have a very clear idea of who can and who cannot operate at this level, because in the two New Zealand tests we are facing clearly the best in the world.

"That is the purpose of these matches. The raw material is there and my role is to harness the talent within the team. Certainly the players are animated about competing with the top countries and we are not even thinking about the Five Nations' Championship in the

Nor does he seem bothcred by the prospect of the high profile be will now have off the field. "I think rugby in general is changing," he said from the middle of the media scrum that will now poke and pry into every corner of bis life. "Since the advent of professionalism the profile of the game has increased, and that of England has grown accordingly. But I am happy to take on whatever the role demands,"

There is little doubt that Dallaglio will cope. Two years ago he took over the captaincy of Wasps after Rob Andrew bad enticed the then club captain, Dean Ryan, to join him at Newcastle.

A number of experienced players followed the lucrative trail to the North-east as Sir John Hall began to build his rugby side, leaving a lot of raw youngsters and the 23-yearold Dallaglio to pick up the pieces. Sudbury was in disarray in October 1995, yet 19 months later Dallaglio led Wasps to the Courage League Championship - an extraordinary achievement Roger Uttley, the England

manager and a former Wasp, saw Dallaglio's influence at first band, and was - with Woodward - responsible for Dallaglio's appointment to the England post. Recalling the troubled period at Wasps, he said: "The way he went on to grip things was remarkable for one so incaperienced. He has a great personal belief in his own ability to do a job and is able to communicate that intensity of purpose.

"Wheo he walks ioto a room you are immediately aware of him and you sil up and take notice. Other people can walk through a door and nothing changes, but with him you are aware of a presence. He stands ont as a leader of men. He bas something which

follow bim." Phil de Glanville, Dallaglio's predecessor, said: "He is a great player and a strong character, but he has not got an easy start. It really is a baptism of fire. But it would be pretty harsh if he were to be axed were England not to do all that well in these pre-Christmas Internationals. Thankfully he has given the opportunity."

makes others prepared to

inherited a settled squad, the organisation behind bim is good. That will belp."

De Glanville had no doubt about Dallaglio's style of leadership. "He will lead from the front. He is very direct and whereas Martin Johnson might bave been a little quiet. Lawrence will be more vocal.".

Dallaglio certainly displays an appetite for the job. "I enjoy captaincy," be said. "Not everyone wants to be captain, but I am pleased to have been given the opportunity. But I would not say I have been looking for the job since Will Carling jumped or was pushed or whatever, but I . am delighted to have been

Fitness and form the concern for Woodward

Woodward, yesterday confessed to being worried as the first of representative matches in the England's four demanding Tests Twickenham on 15 November. ward added. A casualty list of around half a

"I would be lying if I said I" wasn't worried," said Woodward as his 28-strong squad gathered for their final midweek training session at Bisham Abbey yesterday. "We have eight key players injured at the moment. It is not a case of me whingeing. Added to that there is a genuine lack of depth in certain positions."

There is a problem on both wings, with Adedayo Adebayo injured and Woodward seeing no obvious candidate on the right. He also listed stand-off, full-back and tight-head prop as areas of concern, while be is also known to be worried by the positioo of hooker, where the incumbent Mark Regan and his rival Phil Greening have been struggling to get into their respective first teams at Bristol and Gloucester. Indeed Greening may be dropped for his side's Allied Dunbar Premiership match against Harlequins at Kingsholm on Sunday.

The froot row specialist Phil Keith-Roach spent much of the morning working hard with the England meo yesterday and looking closely at their

techniques. When the full squad went out for the afternoon session the promising young stand-off Alex King was among those sitting it out, but he expects to be fit for Wasps' European Cup quarter-final against Brive or Pontypridd in 10 days' time. However for Woodward it is an anxious time, "I just hope I have 36 fit players by Monday 10 November," he said.

That is the squad from which he will select the sides to play Australia and the three England A games against the

The England coach, Clive All Blacks in a period when there will be seveo rigorous space of four weeks. "It will be looms against Australia at like being on tour," Wood-

The organisers of the dozen players is only a part of Heineken Cup have confirmed that Bath's quarter-final tie with either Llanelli or Cardiff will be played on Saturday 8 November. European Rugby Cup Ltd came to the decision after talks with the Welsh Rugby Union and Llanelli, who are set to play the All Blacks oo the same date.

The fixtures will clash if Lianelli beat Cardiff in their quarter-final play-off at the Arms Park on Saturday. But ERC Ltd has insisted whatever the outcome of the WRU's efforts to find a solution. Bath's match at the Recreation Ground will go ahead:

Brive's Argeotinian international centre, Lisandro Arbizu, will miss their Heineken Cup quarter-final play-off against Pontypridd on Saturday. He is required by Argentina this weekend for the Test against Australia in Buenos Aires. His absence has prompted the Brive coach, Laurent Seigne, into shuffling the midfield, pairing the French international wing David Venditti with the centre Christophe Lamaison.

The Scotland scrum-half Bryan Redpath returns to the Scottish Borders side for their match against New South Wales at the Greenyards on-Sunday. Redpath has been out of action sioce suffering a sboulder injury in Borders' European tie against Brive earlier this month.

Two more unnamed potential backers have come for-ward as potential saviours of debt-ridden Bristol, The board of directors met on Tuesday night to consider a number of options and they will now discuss two of them with their financial advisers over the next

Marco open The

Channel 4, Sunday 2nd November at 7.57pm.



With Microsoft* Encarta* 98 Encyclopedia Deluxe (British Edition) the world's your cyster. Thanks to its state of the art multimedia capabilities including video clips and sound bites, information is brought to life before your eyes (and ears). Equivalent to a 30 volume print encyclopedia, it's also 'opdatable' thanks to 5,000 online links and monthly article downloads. All of which is made possible thanks to Windows* 95. To discover why Encarta 98 Encyclopedia provides the perfect platform to inspire learning for all ages, watch Channel 4, Sunday 2nd November, 7,57pm.

Farrell can emerge as the back of all trades

The Wigan forward will abandon his place in the pack and become the playmaker at stand-off for Saturday's first rugby league Test against Australia. It is a switch beyond the capabilities of most players, but, as Dave Hadfield hears, Andy Farrell is no ordinary player.

The apparently desperate ploy of playing a forward at standoff can work for Great Britain in the British Gas Test series. according to the last man to be asked to make that switch.

Phil Clarke was drafted from the pack to try to keep the Australian pivot, Laurie Daley, quiet in the third Test in 1994, just as Andy Farrell is likely to be whatever the number on his back - for all or part of the series opener at Wembley this Saturday. But there, Clarke says, any similarity instantly ends.

"When I was moved to stand-off for the decider at Elland Road three years ago, it was a purely defensive move. I was no Laurie Daley and all we were hoping for was that I might be able to tackle him and put him off his game," he recalls.

The theo Great Britain coach, Ellery Hanley, was almost at the point of calling for volunteers when he asked Clarke to take on a role he had played only rarely as a junior, rather than start with a spe-



Andy Farrell is ready to play whatever role Great Britain want in Saturday's first Test

"It was a negative tactic - all to dn with keeping Laurie quiet - and we were never going to score many points with me there." As it turned out, Hanley

never found out whether his experiment would have worked. An accident in a tackle damaged Clarke's ankle ligaments after only 10 minutes and he limped uff after 23 - to be replaced by the frustrated Scholield. Even without Clarke's defensive starch, Britain held Australia for almost an hour, before the Kangaroos drew away to win the

Test - and the series - 23-4. There is a huge difference between the two situations," says Clarke now that another Wigan loose-forward is being lined up for a similar change of

cialist, Garry Schofield, io the roles. "Andy Farrell is a very. very gifted rugby league player, I was just a trier."

Clarke, prematurely forced into retirement through a neck injury and now based in Australia as a partner in a travel firm, as well as summarising for Sky television during this series. does his own considerable abilities less than full justice. But there is some truth in the distinction he draws.

Like the rest of the Wigan players of his generation, Clarke looked on in some amazement when Farrell, four years bis inoior, broke into first team rugby at 17, already with the full range of skills at bis disposal.

Farrell, despite his towering size, had played plenty of his early rugby at stand-off and, throughout his career, he has acted as a playmaker. Moving

him back there would not be a. sign of panic, but merely a recognition that, wherever be plays his club rugby, he is the best man for the job.

Great Britain had one highly-skilled stand-off io their sound in Iestyn Harris, but even if he had not pulled out with a back injury, his link with Bobbie Goulding on tour last year did not exactly blossom. and there had to be some question mark over his ability to match it physically with Dalcy, the Australian captain who is now an even more formidable proposition than he was three

There is a danger of asking Farrell to do too much - as Wigan have been guilty of all vear. As captain, main organiser in attack and defence, tactical kicker and - in all probability - goal-kicker, he already has enough on his plate without squaring up directly to Australia's main threat and carrying prime responsibility for getting Britain's back-line moving.

It would be too much for an ordinary player. But, as Clarke noticed as soon as the imposing newcomer arrived at Central Park, Farrell has never been that. He knows from to try to play out of character, bin his successor is a different

case entirely. There is just no comparison between me and Andy Farrell. He has so much skill and rugby ability that I don't think you could ever go far wrong wherever you played him."

Resignation opens way for Whelan takeover at Wigan

The Wigan Athletic chairman, Dave Whelan, is expected to win his battle for the control of the town's rugby league club with the announcement of a takeover today.

Whelan, a former sponsor of the club, has been locked in an acrimonious clash of personalities with the former chairman, Jack Robinson, and his successor, Aribur Thomas.

But Thomas has now resigned, reportedly selling his shares to John Martyn, a ular with supporters.

former Wigan director and close ally of Whelan. The immediate consequence

of a Whelan takeover is that Wigan will move in with the footwill club at the new stadium Whelan is having built in the town. Wigan have sold their Central Park ground for supermarket development and have a loose arrangement to move in with Bolton Wanderers at their new stadium, something which has proved enormously unpop-

Another likely effect of a change of ownership could be that John Monie, a hugely successful Wigan coach until he left for Auckland in 1993, could be set for a return. Monie is keen to come back to coach in England and has been mooted as the name Whelan would like to bring in to restore Wigan's position of supremacy in the

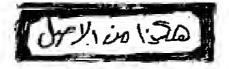
Bradley Clyde is out of Australia's team to face Great Britain at Wembley on Satur-

British game.

day, after deciding not to risk a calf injury. Clyde is confident of being fit for the second Test at Old Trafford a week later. The Brisbase forward Gorden Tallis, is lined up as bisreplacement.

Bradford are poised to complete the signing of Tevita Vaikona from Hull after the Rugby League ruled yesterday that they had acted correctly in signing him, despite an internal row over the deal at Hull.

- Dave Hadfield





Jim Leyland, the Florida Marlins manager, leads the celebrations in downtown Miami yesterday as his World Series-winning team took to the streets after their 4-3 victory against the Cleveland Indians. The Marlins, formed only five years ago, are the youngest team to win baseball's biggest prize Photograph: Reuter

'Disappointed' Maradona retires for the sixth time

this weekend,

sions on Tuesday.

Diego Maradona said vesterdday that he bad decided to retire - for the sixth time - after hearing an incorrect media report that his father had died.

1 - May 1

Of Africa

"I can't carry on like this, suffering from so much presvere," the former Argentina international told local radio. "I'm very disappointed, but I have decided I am giving funtball on my birthday.

"I've just spoken to my father about it. I was with him for more than an our. I bad promised him I would quit if if his sort of thing happened."

Maradona, who celebrates his 37th birthday today, did not say where he had heard the false report of his father's death.

His latest comeback for Boca Juniors, the club from the docklands of Buenos Aires, seemed doomed when he failed a drugs test in August. However, his lawyers have managed to get him back on the pitch by asking for complicated genetir lests to prove that the urine used in the drugs test was really his.

Ronny Johnsen is to take a complete rest in the hope of being fit for Manchester United's next European Champions' sure he'll be in the squad to face League match against Feyeno- Portsmouth on Friday."

Referees demand action over verbal abuse from players

ord in Rotterdam next week. The Referees' Association has The Norwegian defender has called for tough action to be completed only two matches for taken against footballers who abuse officials. The plea comes the Premiersbip leaders this season due to a niggling calf inin the wake of a verbal attack jury and his manager, Alex hy West Ham's John Hartson Ferguson, believes a break on Mike Reed after Monday's from training is the best cure. game at Leicesler when the Wales striker accused the United's defensive problems, which meant Ferguson referee, among other things, of bad to give 19-year-old John being a "bomer".

Curtis his debut in last Satur-Reed has accepted an apolday's 7-0 victory over Barnsley. ogy from Hartson, but said that the matter was now "out look set to ease with Henning of my hands". The FA will Berg set for a possible return decide by the end of the week whether any charge will be Johnsen's compatriot, who has missed the last two matebbrought against Hartson.

es with a thigh problem, is ex-Graeme Souness has pected to be fit to face emerged as the leading candi-Fevenoord and could even line date to become the new manup against Sheffield Wednesday ager of Benfica. The former on Saturday, "Henning is com-Liverpool and Southampton manager could even be installed ing along OK," Ferguson said. The Swindon striker, Wayne by Saturday if the right president is voted in at the Lisbon club to-Allison, has turned down an £800,000 move to Huddersmorrow. Souness is wanted by field. Allison, 29, failed to one of the two candidates for the presidency, Valea Vededo. agree personal terms with Huddersfield's new manager, Peter Souness is still working for the Italian club Torino but is no Jackson, after tengthy discus-

longer in charge of team affairs. The Swindon chairman, Bobby Robson is believed to Rikki Hunt, said: "We are de- he the chosen coach of the other presidential candidate, allighted that Wayne will be rethough sources in Lisbon turning to Swindon and I am suggest Vededo is favourite to win the election.

Albion, Arbroeth v Queen of the South.

Dave Cowling has ended his 10-day reign as Doncaster's manager by resigning in protest at interference from within the club. Cowling will return to his former job as youth coach while he considers his position. Colin Richardson, who coached the first team alongside Cowling, will take charge of first team affairs for Saturday's trip to Scarborough.

Rovers also announced a deal to hand control of the club to the Essex-based businessman Anton Johnson and a consor-

Jan Molhy, sacked as Swansea manager a month ago, is set to return to the club as a player. The former Liverpool midfielder, whose registration as a player has been retained by Swansea, will meet his successor, Alan Cork, for talks.

Arsenal midfielder Emmanuel Petit has been charged with misconduct by the FA following his sending-off against Aston Villa on Sunday. The Frenchman allegedly pushed referee Paul Durkin.

Tomas Brolin said yesterday that he was not interested in joining Bradford City following his release by Leeds United. Alan Nixon

Ken Jones, page 28

England's World Cup hopes boosted by return of Cope

England's women, who lost manager, said: "She gives the 3-0 to four-times European champions Germany last month, have first-choice goalkeeper Pauline Cope back for their vital World Cup qualifying match against the Netherlands at Upton Park tonight.

Cope, of Millwall Lionesses, missed the Germany match with a broken thumb, and is expected to replace the in-form Liverpool goalkeeper, Racbel Brown.

England will be encouraged by the Netherlands' 6-1 home defeat by the world champions Norway earlier this month, although they have still to face Norway at home themselves in

Of the four previous meetings between England and the Netherlands, the bosts have won three and lost one, the last being a friendly in 1978 which England lost 3-1.

Their captain Gillian Coul-

tard, 34, of Doncaster Belles, the country's most capped player, looks set to win her 102nd cap. "I am amazed but delighted to have won so many caps and hope to be around for a while yet," she said. "As long as I keep fit and keep enjoying it, the rest will follow."

Ted Copeland, the England

other players confidence. She is always 110 per cent committed." As for England's chances in the qualifying round, Copeland remains philosophical. "We

couldn't be in a harder group hut just have to get on with it." he said. "We are looking for a result against the Netherlands which would set us up nicely for our remaining group matches against Norway and Germany.

"It has been a great learning process for our young players breaking on to the international scene, so we are confident about the future of women's football in this country."

FOOTDAL! In this COUNTRY,"
ENGLAND (v Netherlands, Upton Park,
7-30) Fronts Cope (Milwal Lionesses), Lorton (Milwel Lionesses), Marphy (Milwel Lionesses), Brown (Liverpool Ladies),
Castarati (Liverpool Ladies), Paed (Arsenel),
Dally (Arsenel), Wenkey (Arsenel), White (Arsenel),
Coultand (Doncester Belles), Marley (Everton), Beaton (Everton), Burley (Everton), Easton (Everton), Browell (Croydon), Brilton (Croydon), Powell (Croydon), Switti
(Tarmere), Massey (Stockport), Wains
(Brighton).

Cardiff City's teenage striker Robert Earnshaw has turned down the chance to play for Wales. Earnshaw, born in Zambia, was invited to represent Wales in next month's European Under-16 Championship but has decided to bide his time and push for a place in the Zambian team.

Women's Challenger at Edinburgh yesterday after beating Natasha Egorova, of Russia, 6-2, 6-0. The 25-yeer-old from Essax, who finished yesterday's match with a run of 10 straight games after one hour's play, meets Jo Ward, the former netional champion from Middlesax today. Laura Cartwight, a junior wild card from Warwickshire, upset the No 7

from Warwickshire, upset the No 7 seed, Tine Krizan from Slovenia, 7-5, 6-3 and now faces Austrian Berbera Schwartz in the second round.

MOTOR RACING

Williams denies steering failure

Frank Williams has made his first appearance at the trial into Ayrton Senna's death. He told the court that he did not believe the Brazilian driver's steering column broke before his fatal crash.

Catherine Riley looks at: a difficult day in the dock for the team's owner.

Frank Williams, accompanied by technical director Patrick Head and designer Adrian Newey, yesterday spoke in court in Imola about the events surrounding Ayrton Senna's fatal crash on 1 May 1994. The three are facing manslaughter charges.

State prosecutor Maurizio Passarini asked Williams about the team's own investigations. "After examination of the telemetry, and a lot of simulation, we as a company formed the opinion that the steering column did not break," he said,

Williams said he could not offer a theory for the cause of the accident, but acknowledged changes had subsequently been made to the steering column of his cars after Senna's death.

"All the cars were checked. Although they were OK, we decided to change the columns and make different versions." Asked why, be said: "To remove any doubts about integrity."

Williams was asked whether he had doubts about Senna's steering column. "Absolutely. Yes, we had doubts, that's why we're here today, trying to find out what happened," he said.

Changes had been made to the steering column to accommodate the Brazilian's desire for more room, but Williams said he could not remember when it was, or who had been involved in the modifications.

Passarini asked about the metal fatigue which had been found in Senna's steeting column. Williams acknowledged the finding, but added dismissively: "I'm certain that the plane I arrived in here had cracks in it."

Pressed over what he would have done had the team known about the scale of fatigue, he said be was not responsible for technical issues. "The quickest way to cause accidents in Formula One is to involve non-experts like you and me in technical decisions."

The session started with Head and Newey exercising their right not to answer questions, a decision which left Williams to respond to the technical questioning, despite his assertion he had no involvement in that area.

Outside court, an unusually forthcoming Williams said: "We'll probably never know what happened. I got across today that we think that the car probably left the road rather than had a steering column failure, that the engineering of the car and its consequent integrity was as

GOLF

Norman's idea takes root

Golf has always been stronger on tradition than revolution, but while Greg Norman's World Tour was put down three years ago, now the concept is close to being realised. Andy Farrell

Golf moved a step nearer to a grand prix circuit vesterday with the announcement of three events in the new World Golf Championships which starts in 1999. Each of the events, one of which will be staged at Valderrama, will have a minimum purse of \$4m (£2.5m).

Including the four major championships, and the US Players' Championship, the leading players in the game will now be brought together at least eight times а усаг.

"The money is great, but the significant thing is the chance to play against each other more often," Tom Lehman, the 1996 Open winner, said, "Then we can really get an idea of who the best players in the world are."

Three years ago Greg Norman endorsed a proposed World Tour, a grand prix-style circuit of limited fields and mega prize money. It was quickly squashed by the established tours, but the result was a dialogue that

led to the PGA Tours International Federation and yesterday's worldwide video

conference. "We took issue with the timing and structure of the proposals, but Greg's articulation and commitment to the concept has provided a positive influence," Tom Finchem, the US Tour commissioner, said.

"We have always been determined that the game should progress in an orderly fashion," added Ken Schofield, the executive director of the European Tour. "The World Golf Championships will achieve that while simultaneously providing opportunities for players from all tonrs to

compete in the same arena." Each event will count as official money on all tours, with the season-ending strokeplay championship at Valderrama in November featuring the top 50 golfers from the world rankings and the leading players from each tour's money list.

The Andersen Consulting World Championship will become a single-week matchplay event with the teading 64 playing at La Costa in California in February. The third tournament, the Invitational, will comprise the Ryder Cup and President's Cup qualified players at Akron, Ohio in August. A fourth event, a revamped World Cup of Golf is likely to be added in 2000.

Monty in the driving seat

As a golfing venue Monte- money title, leads the Gercastillo is a good place to host the denouement of the season. The greens may be patchy in places but the stage is set for a finale of the European season every bit as dramatic as last Sunday at the Jerez motor-racing track next door.

Unlike the rivalry between Michael Schumacher and Jacques Villeneuve, however, matters are unlikely to be concluded with Colin Montgomerie barging into Bernhard Langer on the final round. Langer may not survive such a collision as well as Villeneuve's Williams.

Montgomerie, who is attempting to win an unprecedented fifth consecutive

man by £45,249.48. Langer must finish no lower than fourth to stand a chance. but a victory, or second place if the Scot does not win. would give him his first Order of Merit win for 13 years.

"I'm in the driving seat," Montgomerie said. "To win five in a row would be something special." Langer is not the man he wants to see in his rear-view mirror, though. "I wish it was someone else."

Darren Clarke also has an opportunity to be No 1 should be win for the first time this year. Then Monty would have to be ninth or better, or Langer first or second, to deny the Uisterman.

Andy Farrell

SPORTING DIGEST

Football Preston have signed winger David Eyres from fellow Lancashire Second Division side Burnley in an £80,000 deal Eyres, 33 has signed a two-and-a-half year contract and is set to make his debut against Plymouth at Deep-dale on Seturday.

date on seamers.

The Republic of Ireland have turned down an invitation to play Brazil in a triendly in New York next April. The essociation felt it would not be possible to get players released from ble to get players released fr remier League teams in Britain. Margate's home tie with Second Di-vision Fulham in the FA Cup first round TV. The game has been moved back to Sunday 16 November and will

FOOTBALL RESULTS

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Charde at horse to Moleseyi.

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LIVE SKY TV MATCH COVERAGE: FA.
Carting Premiembip: 11 Jenuary Derby
v.Blackburn; 20 Jenuary Liverpool v Newcastle. Nationwide Footbell League: 9
Jenuary: Tranmere v West Brom; 11 Jensamuery: Stoice v Michesbrough; 6 Febnery: Watford v Gelingham.
TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP First-round
draw: Inverness Caledonian Tristie v
Whichill Welliams. East File v Stranmer, Covdenbesth v Montrous, Fraserburgh v Civic.
Matches to be played on Saturday 6 Decamber, Second-round draw: Uvingston
v Berwick, Inverness Caledonian Thistie or
Whishill Welliams v Queen's Park, Cytoliansk
v Councierbeath or Montrous, Senthousmain v Deveronvele, Peterhead v Alba, Annen Athletic v Vele of Leithen, Lossemouth
v Dumbarron, Rose County v Brachin, East
Stiden v Effohaveit City. East File or v Dumberton, Rose of Leithen, Lossiernouth v Dumberton, Rose County v Brechin, East String v Edinburgh City, East Fife or Stranser v Freserburgh or Cityde, Fortar v

NOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE P Second round; Horien & Pervis S; Suckton phope 2 (ant, Suckton not 5-4 on parelies). ERLINK EXPRESS MIDIAND ALLIANCE:

Golf
The most severe October frost tor 50 years at Hardelot, in France, prevented any play before 1pm in the second round of the European Sentors Rour Qualitying School. With temperatures down to minus nine centigrade overnight, only a handful of players were able to complete their rounds on the Phres and Dunes courtees. European Sentors four Qualitying School (Hardelot, Fr) Leading second-round scores (GB or ht unless stated): 147 S Sendry 75 72; 148 R Lendzion (US) 77 71; 149 J McDermott 76 73; 153 A Jones 76 77; 155 S Mvenyerse (Rn) 77 79; 157 M Craig 77 80; 158 K Furmston 61 77; 159 M Hughes 84 75. Golf

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Divi-sions Namwith 3 Alberton Colleges 4 JEWBON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier
JEWBON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Division:
Dies 1 Feierham 2: Guriseton 4 Lovestott to Great
Varmouth 1 Stowmartes 2: Neissean 5 Bury Town
4: Suctoury Bown 1 By City 1; Tiptine 1 Clacton
2: Wattor 0: Wignating 1: Woodbrigg 4 Harwich
8 Perheston 2 Lasque Cop Brist rounds Norwich
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COURAGE COMPANY Ucif 4 Brightingsee (I. COLIRITIES LEAGUE CONTRACE COMBINED COLIRITIES LEAGUE Premier Distriction Advisor 1 Repress Park Vale 2, LEAGUE CO WALE 25, Exhibit Vale 3 Contract 3 Aberystoyin C; Newtoorn 0 Burry 2, Phys 3 Commun York Mon 1, Estal Network Solitions Limmarifymad 1 Phys (I. 1994)

NATIONAPIDE RIBHE GOLD CUP Guarter-finele:
Citizzatio o Colorano 1 (ant): Lafeid Gilenaxon
1; Newly o Crussdom 1; Crusyl o Distaliary 1.
PONTIN'S LEAGUE Pramier Division: Bhaffeld Werheadey 4 Notongham Forest 0 Second Division: Shaffeld Utd 5 Carlett Utd 1 Third Division: Chessarfeld 0 Hut City 1.
AVON RESURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Crystal Palace 0 Southerspion 3. West Ham 0 Windsions Crystal Palace 0 Southerspion 3.

Hockey
Jane Stomith, Great Britain's triple
Olympian, will lead the England aide
against Korea at Milton Keynes this
afternoon in the first of two Tests
against the Alanta Olympic Säver
medalisis. The accord game is at the
same venue in front of BBC Grandstand cameras on Saturday. With Jo
Moutd and Liea Copeland ruled out
with injuries and Mandy Davies not
available for the first game, England
expect to give first caps to Ipswich's
Lisa King and Loughborough
Student's Jernie Birnson.
ENGLAND SCHAD (v Korea, Militon
Keynes, today, 2,0%; J Sternith (Suton Coddet), H Rose (Labeatin', M Clevick,
J England, C Vess (Labeatin', M Clevick,
J England, C Canterbuy, T Called, C Pati
(Falinown), L Cultion, T Milter (Citton), L ring
(bewich), J Simson (Loughborough
Students).

Hatf-time results: £13:15
BRITTENS: Treble chance: 24pts £3:00, 23
£170. Four draws £3:30. Eight homes
£10.75 Five aways £30.72.
EITTENS: Treble chance: 24pts £12A5, 23
£30. Four chaws £3:20. Eight homes
£2:30. Four chaws £3:20. Lincty numbers
£3:30. Four change £3:280. Lincty numbers
£3:50. Four beings £3:280. Lincty numbers
£3:50. Four change £3:280. Eight homes
£2:35. 19, 54.
VERNONS: Treble chance: 24pts £5:42.5
£3:£110. 22 £135. Super shots £78 (paid on fine correct). Premier 10 £35 (paid on eight correct).

A French team composed of a vet-eran carsmen and a convicted killer gained second place yesterday in the Atlantic Rowing Race, while a boat rowed by a pair of New Zealanders maintained in strong lead. The world's first Atlantic rowing race began in Spelins Canary Islands off northwest Africa on 30 October. It ends in Bar-bados in about two months. The Kiwi

Challenge, manned by Olympic row-er Rob Hamili and Phil Stubbs, was ahead by 159 nautical miles ahead of the closest bost, the Atlantic Challenge manned by Veteran ocean rower Joseph LeGuen and Pascal Blond, recently released from prison after serving a seven-year sentence for beating a man to death.

Rugby Union Rugby Unition
Tries by Willie Ofamengawe, Pat
Howard and Mitchell Hardy gave
Australia a 29-18 victory over a
Rosarlo city combination team in the
second match of their Argentinian tour.
Next Saturday the Wallables will play
the first of two Test matches egainst
Argentina's national team, the Purnas,
in the first match of their tour Australia
routed a Tucumen province combination team 76-15.

John Colputious, the former Hearts footballer, and Louise Martin, the existent material swimmer and now president of Scottish Gymnastics, were both appointed to the Scottish Sports

Sports politics

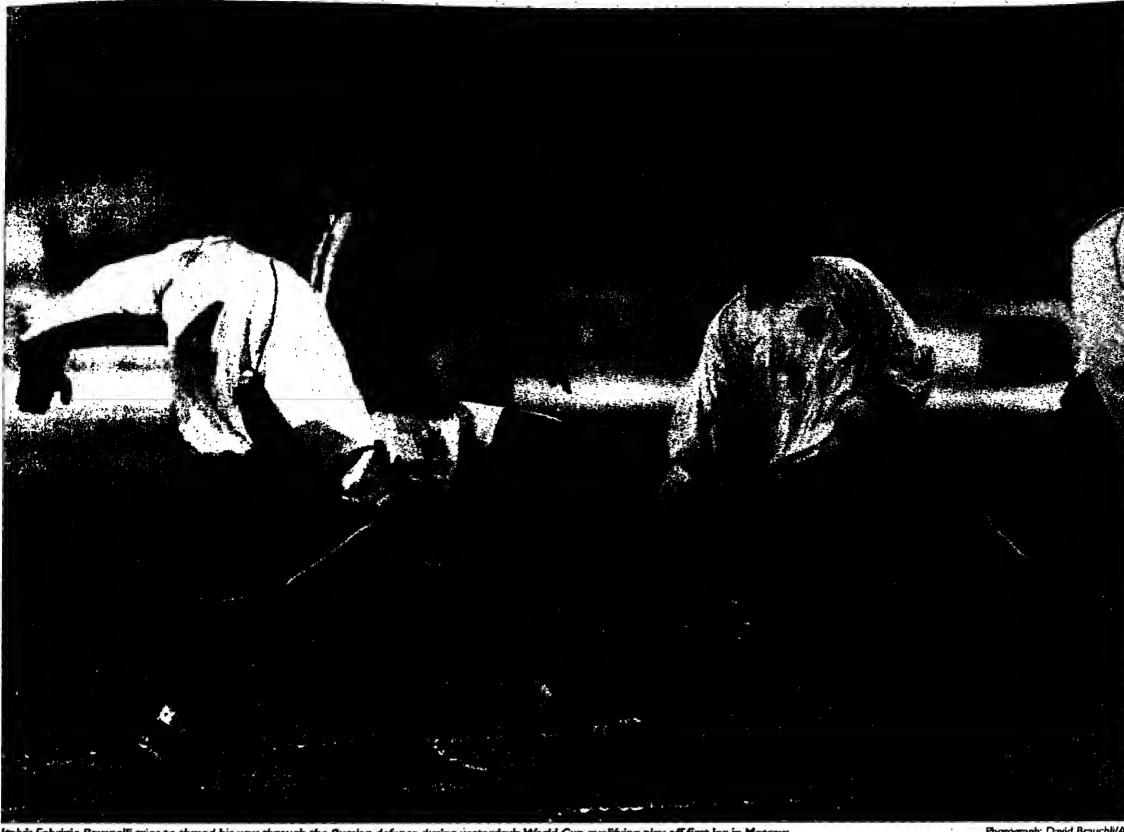
SQUARSTI PAKISTAN OPEN (Karachi) Quarter-Brais: Janeter Khan (Paid bt A Wegh (Ed) 5-8 5-10 4-15 5-7; M Chebrer (Eng) bt M Medhat Mora: (Ed) 5-7 11-5 15-1 1-5-1; 2 Castaleyn (Bol) bt 8 Davis (Aus) 5-11 5-6 15-17 15-1; A H

Three-time Wimbledon champion John McEnroe will be among the com-mentators for Eurosport television at the ATP Tour championship, in Hanover, from 10-16 November. McEnros has given many interviews in the past, but this will be the first time British viewers will hear a commentary on matches from the 38-year-old Sam Smith, British No 1, breezed through to the second round of the

6-3 and now tacks Austrian Berrota Schwartz in the second round.

PARIS RIDCOR OPEN MEN'S TOURNAMENT Second round: T Enqvist (Swe) bt
D Princel (Ger) 7-5 8-1; G Reaux (Fr) bt
Rice (Chile) 7-63-67-5; T Woodbridge (Aus)
bt (9) C Moya (Sp) 7-68-2; P Konte (Cz Rep)
bt A Clement (Fr) 6-4 8-4; T Musier (Aut)
bt (9) C Moya (Sp) 7-68-2; P Konte (Cz Rep)
bt A Clement (Fr) 6-4 8-4; T Musier (Aut)
bt M Norman (Swe) 6-3 7-5; M Gustaffson (Swe) bt M Crising (US) 6-3 6-2; G Russdsid (GE) bt J Slementrik (Neth) 8-4 6-3; S
Bruguera (Sp) bt M Goeliner (Ger) 6-3 7-6.
COLOMEIAN OPEN (Bogota) Singles first
round: E Alwersz (Sp) bt Alberto Martín (Sp)
6-3 7-6; F Meligani (Gr) bt Maurice Rush
(Men) 6-3 3-6 6-1; A Hemandez (Med) bt
Alsmi (Mo) 7-6 5-7 6-4; J A Viloca (Sp)
bt M Crisca (Ger) 6-4 6-4; F Vecente (Sp)
bt A Pavel (Rom) 8-2 6-2; M Firscon (Co)
bt M Filippini (Uni) 6-1 7-6; C Costa (Sp)
bt L Teleman (II) 8-0 8-4
MEALTHSOUTH USTA CHALLENGER
(Austin, Tex) Singles first round: A
Miler (US) bt M Endo (Jacen) 7-6 6-2; L
Normona (Cz Rep) bt Melen Tu (US) 7-8 6-5; E Geglanti (II) bt L Golavsa (II) 6-3 6-7; A Ellucod (Aus) bt P Sueraz (Arg) 6-3 6-7; A Ellucod (Aus) bt P Sueraz (Arg) 6-3 6-7; A Ellucod (Aus) bt P Sueraz (Arg) 6-3 7-6; A Blacod (Aus) bt P Sueraz (Arg) 6-3 7-6; A Blacod (Aus) bt P Sueraz (Arg) 6-3 7-6; A Blacod (Aus) bt P Sueraz (Arg) 6-3 7-6; A Studies (Mel) So 7-6; A Blacod (Aus) bt P Sueraz (Arg) 6-3 7-6; R Studies (Mel) So 7-6; A Strift (GB)
LTA WOMEN'S CHALLENGER (Edin
LTA WOMEN'S CHALLENGER (Edin-S Drake-Brockman (Aus) 6-3 7-6.
LTA WOMEN'S CHALLENGER (Edinburgh) Singles, first round: S Smith (BS)
bi N Egorova (Aus) 5-2 6-0; S Schwartz (Aus)
bi N Egorova (Aus) 5-2 6-0; L Cartwright (Br)
bi T A Jenses (BS) 6-2 6-0; L Cartwright (Br)
bi T A Krzan (Sio) 7-5 6-3; L Ahl (BB) bi A
Canepa (I) 6-0 6-3; A Meler (Gen) bi A Hopmaris (Neth) 6-3 6-1; S Nazuk (Yug) bi N
Caok (GB) 6-7 6-2 6-1; S Nazuk (Yug) bi N
Caok (GB) 6-7 6-2 6-1; S Nazuk (Yug) bi N
Caok (GB) 6-8 9-1; L Andretio (F) bi H Colin
(GB) 7-8 6-1; J Weetr (GB) bi L Bacheve
(Bul) 5-7 5-6 1-1; Weetr (GB) bi S Norlarder (Bal) 6-2 3-6 6-4; E Bas (Sp) bi S Norlarder (Bs) 1-6 7-5; E Zensto (Switt) bi
D Van De Zande (Bs) 6-4 6-4; P Wertusch
(Auf) bi P Schwetz (Auf) 6-7 6-4 6-4; S Siddal (GB) bi L Woodrofis (GB) 7-3 6-4; S

FOOTBALL: WORLD CUP



Italy's Fabrizio Ravanelli tries to thread his way through the Russian defence during yesterday's World Cup qualifying play-off first leg in Moscow

Photograph: David Brauchl/AP

Vieri makes history while calming Italy's nerves

Christian Vieri became the first Italian to score for his country in Russia last night as his side secured a confidenceboosting draw from the first leg of their World Cup play-off in

The Real Madrid striker scored with a fine solo effort in

lead lasted barely two minutes before it was cancelled out by an own goal from Fabio Cannavaro, the Italians will return confident that they have the advantage. With away goals counting double they need only a goalless draw in the second leg in Naples on 15 November to qualify for next summer's

finals in France. Italy have won the World

consigned to the play-offs after finishing behind England in their qualifying group. Failure against Russia would mean Italy missing out on the finals for the first time in 40 years.

Vieri pounced on a long through ball from Demetrio Albertini and, as the Russian defender Akhrik Tsveiba slipped on the snowy pitch, he steered the ball past the goalkeeper Sergei

scramble on the goalline following a cross from the right. A goalless first half saw both teams finding ball control difficult on an icy night at the Dynamo stadium, where the playing surface was bumpy and

the Soviet Union in Moscow

three times since 1963 and had

never scored. The Russian re-

sponse was swift though Can-

navaro's own goal, coming after

among the Italian defence, but the 1994 runners-up grew in confidence as they became accustomed to the unfamiliar conditions. menace to the Russians, his skill

ton winger, Andrei Kanchelskis,

caused some early concern

The muscular Vieri was a in the air setting up a 14thminute opportunity for the recalled Fabrizio Ravanelli, only striker to shoot well wide.

Eight minutes later Ovchinnikov had to move smartly off his line as the Italians again threatened. But it was a half in which clear cut chances were at a premium.

The Italians lost their goalkeeper, Gianluca Pagliuca, with a leg injury after a clumsy challenge by Kanchelskis two-thirds of the way through

placed by the inexperienced Gianliugi Buffon.

However, the Parma keeper distinguished himself with a fine diving save from a shot by Sergei Alenichev in the dying minutes of the period. The Russians also lost a key player before the break when their defensive linchpin, Viktor Onopko, doubtful before the start, had to be replaced.

RUGBY UNION

Dallaglio handed the captaincy

Lawrence Dallaglio was yesterday appointed as the captain of England less than two years after winning the first of his 12 caps. His selection was something of a surprise with many expecting the role to be given to Martin Johoson, who captained the Lions to victory in South Africa in the summer.

The England coach, Clive Woodward, and manager, Roger Uttley, deliberated long and hard before Dailaglio, the captain of Wasps, was told of their decision on Monday.

Dallaglio, 25, has been appointed "for the foresecable future", but could not be given a more fearsome introduction to the high-profile job: four Tests in as many weeks against Australia, New Zealand (twice) and South Africa. The first will be against Australia on 15 November.

"Lawrence is the man to take things forward," Woodward said. "He will have a say in selection; l would not want Lawrence to take out a team unless he is 100 per cent happy with it."

The 6ft 4in Dallaglio succeeds Phil de Glanville. who was in charge for just eight matches in his yearlong tenure. De Glanville had taken over from Will Carling, the captain for nine years from 1988 to 1996 in which time he led England on 59 occasions.

Woodward and Uttley did not commit themselves to having Dallaglio as their captain in the long term, though, form and fitness permitting there is nothing to stop him going all the way to the World Cup in 1999.

But Woodward said: "Lawrence will be picked on form as a player and as a captain and if I think we need a change then in Martin Johnson we have a ready-made replacement

"I admired Geoff Cooke for appointing Will Carling initially for four years. I would like to think I would have bad the bottle to do the same. But times have changed."

- David Llewellyn Tests of the best, news, page 30

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



Keeping quiet about arrival. on reflection a mistake (7) String ensemble from

Alexandria? (7)
9 Beat poet? (5)
10 Pay back rupee, Burmese one, possibly (9)

11 Smart article covered in gold to begin with? Not so

12 Repel savage brute (5)13 Give up fruit (5)15 On paper, initially, university syllabus is well-respected

18 Solicitor sails south with little hesitation (9) 19 A disadvantage being mar-ried, in America? (5)

21 Natural swimmer accepting new technology? (5) 23 Oil exploration company's angle on marine life forms
(9)

25 Over in the Spanish bar is a journalist, rather attractive 26 Speech affected? Doctor

will need pointed instrument (5) 27 A medicai setback - run, please rup (7) 28 Man with franchise given

top job in Hanover? (7) DOWN

 Agreeable noises from European Union not genuine?

2 How hunger could make you crude (5-4)
House originally Weish, often mocked in England? (5)

the sun externally? It's acception acceptance of the sun externally? It's acceptance of the sun external s After mass, northern French town's about to enjoy carni-

val (5,4) First person taking Religious Education holds up question papers (5)



Where the trunks are la-Pound for bathrobe (reduced) (5)

Gowns worn here in the Sheldonian, for instance? 14 Tread path warily - it's a

dangerous place (5-4)

16 Don't give up always appearing in blue (9)

17 Deliciously stuffed liver you get in France? (3,6)

18 English doctor relocating in Burmande area (4-2)

Burgundy area (4-3)
20 Central heating powered by the sun externally? It's acad-

signalling apparatus - lack of hooters? (5)

23 Demand bishop must appear in fur coat (5) 24 Deposit for bouse (5)

Bilic puts Croatia on way

A goal in each half steered Croatia closer to a debut in the World Cup as they cruised past Ukraine in Zagreb yesterday. The Everton defender

Slaven Bilic put the Croats abead in the 11th minute with a powerful beader, and Goran Visovic added the second in the 49th with a skilful solo effort. The Croats justified their role as the favourites from the outset, dictating the tempo and throwing the Ukraine defence into dissaray with a flurry of ear-

"Our approach was to force them to crack early, to break them and not allow them time or space," said the Croatian coach, Miroslav Blazevic.

defence when he climbed high, unmarked, to connect perfectly with a floated cross. Ukraine battled valiantly in

the midfield but failed to mount an attack that seriously threatened Croatia's goal. The only real opportunity came in the 30th minute during a goalmouth scramble that was cleared from the line.

Croatia penetrated with short passes and through balls down the flanks. Milan's Zvonimir Boban shot a fierce drive inches wide of the post and Goran Vlaovic sent a golden opportunity sailing over the cross-

Vlaovic atoned for his miss just after the break when he took the ball outside the box and had one man to beat. He swivelled left, then right, to The strategy paid off. Bilic make room before hammering

capitalised on the vulnerable the ball high into the Ukraine

Although Croatia will be without their captain, Boban, and Bilic in the return leg through one-match suspensions. Blazevic was confident. This was one of our best matches, considering its importance. I think the two goals will be cushion enough to guarantee advancement," he said.

Still fledglings in terms of international football, Ukraine and Croatia have never played in a World Cup. The return leg will be played in Kiev in two weeks' time, most likely before some 100,000 screaming bome fans and in sub-zero temperatures.

Crostis: Ladic; Jami, Blic, Prostneckl, Suker, Boben (Jurtic, 67), Stanic (Asanovic, 58), Seric, Viaovic (Cvitemovic, 63), Senic, Juric Uleraine: Shovtovsky, Dmytrulin, Strypnyk Koval, Vaehchuk, Gustin, Maximov (Hetelor 86), Nahornyak (Zubov 60), Koerovsky, Maiden (Mykhallenko, 53), Rabrov.

Call for ban on players' bets

football at all.

ganisation said yesterday it would welcome any plans by the Football Association to ban players from betting on

The FA is about to publish a report which is believed to recommend a ban on gambling by footballers.

It follows unsupported allegations of a spread bet last season on the time of the first throw-in during a Premiership

Paul Anstin, the director of over the telephone and we

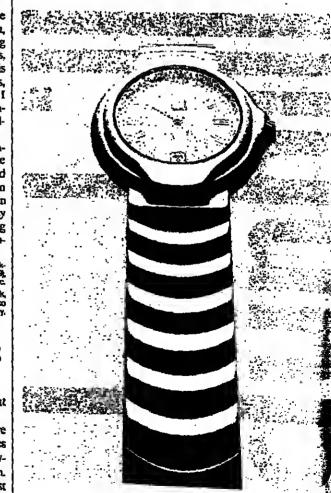
A leading spread betting or- communications for City Index, know every one of our account said: "We would welcome any holders." Austin said City Index were such ban because footballers shouldn't be allowed to bet on

not one of the three companies which took bets on the throw-"Our business is regulated in during the match in question. He said: "The single biggest by the Securities and Futures Authority, and no footballer winning bet was £1,000 and the three companies combined loss can open an account with us and bet on football. They can a total of £600, so it is unlikeopen an account and bet on ly that any footballers bet on it golf or horse-racing for exto make a quick killing."

A spokesman for Ladbrokes "We are in control of every said the company was waiting bet, because they are all placed for the FA's report to be published before commenting.

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